

British church envoy in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A Church of England envoy who secured the release of Britons from Libya and Iran arrived in Beirut on Wednesday to seek freedom for four Americans held hostage by gunmen in Lebanon. Terry Waite, a lay assistant to Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, told reporters at Beirut airport he had come to Lebanon because he believed "there is a reasonable chance of talking with the captors of the hostages." He added: "I believe there is a real opportunity for a breakthrough in this problem. I am optimistic but I recognise the pathway is yet difficult, and there is a long way to go." Mr. Waite, who received a letter from the four hostages last weekend, has since spoken by telephone with an intermediary of the shadowy "Islamic Jihad" (holy war) group believed to be holding the men.

King's 50th birthday special

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية مستقلة تأسست عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

SLA shells 7 villages

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Pro-Israeli militiamen shelled seven villages in South Lebanon on Wednesday, killing one man, security sources said. The man died when Jbaa village near Nabatiyeh came under shelling from the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia, they said. It began after commandos fired Katyusha rockets and mortars at three SLA posts Tuesday night. The shelling paralysed activity in Jbaa and nearby 'Ain Bou Sowar and Jarjuth. The villages of Yater, Kafra, Kfar Rouman and Habboush earlier came under SLA shelling and small-arms fire but no casualties were reported, the sources said. Israel meanwhile lifted an unofficial two week blockade of the southern port of Tyre, allowing two Greek-registered ships to unload their cargoes of cement, port officials said. They said Israeli naval units two weeks ago declared Lebanon's southern coast a "military" zone and banned all shipping, including fishing boats.

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Lawzi congratulates Egyptian speaker

AMMAN (Petra) — Upped House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi sent a congratulatory cable on Wednesday to Dr. Rifaat Al Mahjoub congratulating him on his reelection as speaker of Egypt's People's Assembly. In his cable Mr. Lawzi wished Dr. Mahjoub continuing success in serving the causes of Egypt and its people. He also expressed his hope for strengthening and bolstering ties of cooperation and joint work between Jordan and Egypt to serve the interest of the two countries and achieve the goals of the Arab Nation.

Iraqi delegation to hold Moscow talks

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — A high-level delegation headed by Iraqi Oil Minister Jassem Taqi Al Oraibi left here for Moscow on Wednesday for talks on strengthening oil industry cooperation with the Soviet Union. The visit will also promote the exchange of technical expertise between the two countries. The delegation, which includes Oil Under-secretary Abdul Munem Al Sammarae, will acquaint itself with current Soviet oil industry techniques.

Rabin heads for Washington

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin left for the United States on Wednesday for four days of talks with senior American officials, ministry sources said. The sources said Rabin was scheduled to meet with U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger, Secretary of State George P. Shultz and the congressional armed services committees.

British police arrest 6 bomb suspects

LONDON (R) — Police investigating the planting of bombs outside a central London army barracks on Wednesday announced they had arrested four men and two women. The six were held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act after raids on a number of London addresses, police said. Responsibility for planting the bombs, which were safely defused, was claimed on Tuesday by the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) which is seeking an end to British rule in Northern Ireland.

Tanker reportedly hijacked off Java

JAKARTA (AP) — The coast guard said it was searching for a Panamanian-flag tanker that was reported hijacked on Wednesday from the East Java port of Tanjung Perak. The captain of the K.M. Merlin, an Indonesian ship, radioed a message about the hijacking, but the coast guard said it had not succeeded in contacting the ship. There was no indication of why the De Viser might have been hijacked. The coast guard said three patrol boats and a helicopter were trying to locate it.

India, not Soviets, pose threat to Pakistan, journalist says

ISLAMABAD (AP) — India rather than the Soviet Union poses the main military threat to the future of Pakistan, a top newspaper editor was quoted Wednesday as saying. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, editor of the Muslim, a leading newspaper, made the assessment in a speech to the Institute of Strategic Studies. The Soviet Union has no reason or interest in moving against Pakistan, whereas India casts itself as the dominant power in the region and views Pakistan as an obstacle, Sayed said. "The principal military threat to Pakistan comes from India and not from the Soviet Union," Sayed was quoted as saying.

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

JORDAN TODAY celebrates the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein with street marches, festivals, exhibitions and folklore activities in various parts of the Kingdom.

The celebrations are taking place in all cities, towns and villages bedecked with flags, the King's portraits and other decorative signs and with posters and slogans voicing support for and pledging allegiance to the King and support for his policies.

On the occasion several development projects are scheduled to be inaugurated in the Kingdom.

King Hussein, born in Amman in 1935, was brought up under the care of the late King Abdullah Ibn Hussein, the King's grandfather and founder of the Kingdom, and his father the late King Talal Ibn Abdullah, and Her Majesty Queen Zein the Queen Mother.

After completing his basic education in Amman, King Hussein continued studies in Alexandria and later in England.

He ascended to the Throne in 1952 when he was only 17, and assumed his constitutional powers the following year.

Under King Hussein, Jordan has accomplished numerous achievements in the fields of education, agriculture, tourism and industry, communications, health and energy.

Despite his young age when he took over the helm of the Kingdom, the King handled the affairs of the country with clear vision and long-term strategies and managed to realise a number of ambitious development projects to bring Jordan to the fore of developing countries. Today, Jordan's name has come to be closely linked with that of the King and the Jordanian people and the world community look up at him for inspiration and with appreciation for his untiring efforts to continue Jordan's development march.

The King had always been the symbol of Jordan's stability, achievements and progress and the Kingdom has taken its rightful place among Arab and Third World countries as an example to be followed.

On the Arab level, the King was always a leading figure to speak out on the importance of Arab solidarity and joint Arab action to overcome the challenges facing the Arab Nation.

Arab Nation.

The King always believed in the strength of a unified Arab World and sought to mobilise all Arab forces towards liberating their homeland and the path was further clarified with the signing of the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

There are few other Arab leaders who have shown so much flexibility as the King in the service of the Arab causes and it was in this spirit that the reconciliation process between Syria and Jordan took off the ground two months earlier.

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ting managed to come out with a clear strategy for the Palestinian people to follow towards liberating their homeland and the path was further clarified with the signing of the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). There are few other Arab leaders who have shown so much flexibility as the King in the service of the Arab causes and it was in this spirit that the reconciliation process between Syria and Jordan took off the ground two months earlier. The King has always been an

advocate of brotherly relations among all Arab countries and over-riding desire for a clear Arab atmosphere that prompted his readiness for a rapprochement with Syria.

Jordan was also the first Arab country to invoke the Joint Arab Defence Treaty and proclaim support for Iraq in its war with Iran and the support has been maintained ever since.

In keeping with all Arab aspirations, the King turned down all bids for unilateral and separate peace settlements in the Middle East and always insisted on a comprehensive settlement addressing all aspects of the Palestinian problem.

The King has adopted a firm stand vis-a-vis attempts to tamper with the legitimate leadership of the PLO.

In keeping with principles of the Great Arab Revolt, King Hussein has declared Jordan's total support for Iraq in its struggle to repel Iran's aggression on the Arab Nation. On the domestic front, His Majesty has spared no efforts to help Jordan carry out its successful development projects aimed at raising the social and cultural standard of the population.

King Hussein has paid special attention to the building up of the Jordanian Armed Forces and equipping the army with the most up-to-date weapons to defend the nation. The King can look back and be proud of what he has achieved for his country, and the Jordanian people can take pride in having King Hussein at the helm to direct the destiny of Jordan with wisdom, care and responsibility.

The public holiday today, and the various festivities to be held in the Kingdom reflect only part of the deep affection for the leader of the Jordanian people, a people who deeply appreciate the sacrifices the King has made to help them realise a better future.

On the occasion of his birthday, King Hussein received cables of good wishes from senior government officials, heads of public and private organisations, representatives of refugee camps, bedouin tribes, trade unions, cultural and sports clubs, and other sectors of the public.

The cables renewed the people's pledge for supporting the King's endeavours and policies and allegiance to the Throne.

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Rifai returns from Syria with joint statement rejecting all partial Mideast solutions

Jordan and Syria to lift all restrictions on exchange of agricultural, industrial products

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai returned to Amman from Damascus on Wednesday with a joint Jordanian-Syrian communique rejecting all partial solutions to the Middle East conflict and ruling out direct talks with Israel.

The joint communique, issued simultaneously in Amman and Damascus, said Jordan and Syria believe that the only feasible means to work out a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict and achieve peace in the region is an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the superpowers.

The communique was released at the end of Mr. Rifai's two-day visit to Damascus. During the visit, the first by a Jordanian prime minister in over five years, Mr. Rifai held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. Syrian

Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kass and other senior Syrian officials.

In a six-hour meeting on Monday, Mr. Rifai also delivered to President Assad a message from His Majesty King Hussein. The message dealt with Jordanian-Syrian relations and also contained an invitation to Mr. Assad to visit Jordan.

The joint communique released on Wednesday said Jordan and Syria agreed on the need to bolster joint Arab action in various fields to confront the Israeli enemy and to establish a just and durable peace in the Middle East. It emphasised that political moves require continued serious action to build Arab intrinsic strength to defend the Arab Nation to enable

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(Continued on page 3)

Peres kicks out Sharon from cabinet

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres on Wednesday dismissed hawkish right-wing Trade Minister Ariel Sharon, the prime minister's office said.

A letter of dismissal was handed over at a special cabinet meeting following a scathing attack by Sharon on Peres, the office said.

The move could mean the fall of the nine-party coalition government if Sharon's colleagues in the Likud bloc resign. But Likud politicians said they hoped to find a solution to the crisis.

Likud and Peres' Labour Party are the main partners in the coalition, which took office in September, 1984, and has been rocked by rows over Middle East peace moves.

Peres' office said that under Israeli law the letter of dismissal would take effect in 48 hours and Likud had been asked to name a replacement for Sharon.

The former defence minister, architect of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, this week accused Peres of "base craftiness" in his efforts to promote Middle East peace dialogue.

Sharon, who opposes returning occupied Arab land as part of a peace settlement, said Peres was "leading the government down a crooked path without any ministers having any idea of what was going on."

Earlier, Sharon said he apologised if Peres had been insulted but he stood by the substance of his remarks. Peres aides said the prime minister refused to accept an apology which did not express confidence in the government.

Likud parliamentarians held an emergency meeting shortly before the cabinet session. One of them, Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai, told reporters he hoped the coalition would survive.

Sharon, who was forced to resign as defence minister in 1983 after a judicial inquiry into the massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut, is one of the most die-hard advocates of a "greater Israel" policy.

The policy advocates that Israel should under no circumstances give up Arab territory occupied during the 1967 Middle East war.

In firing Sharon, Peres is knowingly breaking a coalition agreement with Likud which says such a move can take place only if approved by Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir, who is deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

In honour of the King's commitment to education Noor Al Hussein Foundation to establish Jubilee School

AMMAN (Petra) — The Noor Al Hussein Foundation is to establish a model secondary school for gifted students to be named the Jubilee School, in honour of His Majesty King Hussein's deep commitment to education and in recognition of the great strides made by the country under his leadership.

The Royal Endowment for Culture and Education, which was established in 1980 and is now incorporated within the foundation, has, for the past year, worked on plans for the establishment of the Jubilee School. The endowment has consulted with local and international exp-

(Continued on page 3)



A scale model of the Jubilee School to be opened by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation

Protest strike over bombing attack on Christian leaders paralyses east Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The mostly Christian eastern sector of Beirut was largely paralysed on Wednesday by a strike to protest at a suicide bomb attack on Christian leaders opposed to a Syrian-sponsored plan to end the Lebanese civil war.

Schools, banks and businesses in the eastern sector of the capital closed, but bakeries and pharmacies remained open, and mostly Muslim west Beirut carried on as normal.

The strike was called by the Falangist party, whose leader Elie Karamah was injured in the blast on Tuesday at a monastery where five members of the right-wing "Lebanese Front" coalition were holding their weekly meeting.

The explosion, audible for kilometres around, killed four people and wounded 23. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by an anonymous telephone caller on behalf of two previously unknown Christian groups.

Mr. Karamah told reporters from his hospital bed the bomb attack had been aimed at silencing the Lebanese Front, which has criticised the Damascus peace accord worked out by Lebanon's three main militias.

The front was not involved in negotiations between the predominantly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia, which earlier this year split with the Falangists, and the mostly Druze Progressive Socialist Party and Shi'ite Amal militias.

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The "Lebanese Forces" also

called for a strike, fearing the bombing was aimed at sabotaging the peace talks, but vowed to press on with the Syrian-backed initiative.

An anonymous caller claiming to speak for a hitherto unknown group calling itself the Vanguard of Arab Christians told a Western news agency in Beirut by telephone: "We have staged this bombing and we shall carry out more sacrifices."

The caller, speaking in Arabic, accused Christian leaders meeting at the monastery of seeking to align Lebanon's Christian community with Israel.

Beirut also was without newspapers on Wednesday. All 16 dailies staged a one-day strike to protest recent bombing attacks on their offices and gunpoint kidnappings of journalists.

(Continued on page 3)

Liberian coup bid fizzles out

ABIDJAN (Agencies) — Liberian leader Samuel K. Doe was in the official presidential residence on Wednesday, an aide said, and a radio station issued fresh assurances that a coup attempt failed.

A U.S. diplomat said on Tuesday that state-run Liberian Radio was retaken from the rebels, but that some rebels apparently still were in the streets of the capital.

An aide who answered the phone at the executive mansion early on Wednesday and identified himself as Capt. Bahr said Mr. Doe was resting and did not wish to talk to reporters.

Capt. Bahr told the Associated Press he had not been outside yet and did not know what the situation was.

Radio Elwa, the private station that announced the coup attempt Tuesday morning, opened its Wednesday morning newscast with a renewed claim that the coup

"has been foiled."

It said: "The early morning coup of yesterday led by former armed forces commanding general, Brig. Gen. Thomas Juiwonkpa, was put down by troops loyal to head of state Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe."

Soldiers loyal to Mr. Doe have regained control of Monrovia, but fighting appeared to be continuing on the road to the main airport, residents in the Liberian capital reported.

But diplomats in Monrovia said the outcome of the coup attempt was still in doubt.

No details were known of casualties in the fighting, but diplomats said they might have been heavy. The three major radio stations, all recaptured by Mr. Doe's forces, broadcast an appeal for blood donors from Monrovia's main hospital.

was Brig. Gen. Juiwonkpa, one of the 17 non-commissioned officers and soldiers who overthrew Liberia's last civilian government in 1980.

Most of the group perished in subsequent purges. Gen. Juiwonkpa fell out with Mr. Doe in 1983 but managed to escape into exile.

The proclamation that he had taken power was greeted with

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U.S. to contribute to UNRWA

UNITED NATIONS (USIA) — Although the United States was not able to announce its contribution to the 1986 budget of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) at the agency's pledging conference on Nov. 11, the U.S. will be contributing to the humanitarian agency later this year, a U.S. official said.

Robert Immerman, U.S. representative to the conference, said that the U.S. "remains firmly committed to supporting UNRWA programmes which provide urgently needed education, medical and relief services to some two million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East."

The United States was not in a position to announce a precise amount on Nov. 11, Mr. Immerman said, because the U.S. Congress has not completed action on the fiscal 1986 budget.

In 1985 the United States contributed a total of \$75 million. The first contribution was \$67 million to the regular UNRWA budget. When UNRWA's financial crisis threatened closure of several schools, President Reagan authorised a one-time additional contribution of \$8 million.

A total of \$59.9 million was pledged by 39 nations during the conference. The agency needs \$191 million in contributions for 1986 "as a bare minimum," UNRWA officials said.

Lotfi: Arafat declaration is a 'golden opportunity'

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Egyptian Prime Minister Ali Lotfi was quoted Wednesday as saying Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's declaration renouncing commando operations outside Arab lands was a golden opportunity for Middle East peace.

"I can say it is a golden opportunity... I can also say it is the last opportunity for Israel and the United States to move together to achieve genuine peace in the Middle East," he told the Kuwaiti daily Al-Ahram in an interview.

Mr. Lotfi said Mr. Arafat, who made the declaration in Cairo last week, had extended his hand in peace and that Israel and the United States should recognise this and review their policies.

He urged Israel to accept an international conference as a forum for talks on a just solution acceptable to all, and said this could be arranged without the Soviet Union, though he would prefer Moscow to attend.

Mr. Lotfi said the Palestinian struggle in occupied lands was now beyond the control of Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation and belonged to a new generation of people who had been born into subjugation.

Meanwhile, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said in an interview published Wednesday that his "Cairo declaration" limits armed attacks against Israeli military targets to Israel and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Strip. President Hosni Mubarak, whose aides played an important role in writing the declaration, told reporters on Saturday that his understanding of the document was that it ruled out operations in Israel and limited them to the West Bank and Gaza.

In Mr. Arafat's interview with Al-Ahram, weekly organ of the pro-Moscow National Unionist Progressive Party, Mr. Arafat was asked specifically if such an interpretation was correct.

"The text is clear," he said. "It includes all occupied Palestinian lands. I am not responsible for other people's interpretations."

Mr. Arafat, who left Monday after a week of talks with Mr. Mubarak and other Egyptian officials, described the declaration as a "counter-attack" against an American-Israeli campaign to exclude the PLO from any peace settlement.

In another interview with the weekly magazine Al-Ahram, Mr. Arafat spoke of other problems facing his organisation. He said the rapprochement between Jordan and Syria, which backs several anti-Arafat Palestinian factions,

was aimed at "creating a split between the PLO and Jordan."

Nevertheless, Mr. Arafat said he believes his Feb. 11 agreement with King Hussein will stand strong against Syrian pressures. The agreement outlines future joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves for peace with Israel.

After Mr. Mubarak's talks with Mr. Arafat, Palestinian sources said the Palestinian chief had expressed PLO concern about warming relations between Jordan and Syria.

In the Al-Ahram interview, Mr. Arafat discounted reports about the Soviet Union planning to resume diplomatic relations with Israel in return for a role in an international peace conference on the Middle East.

"And I want to say, there are no relations between the Soviet Union and Israel... and no relations between the United States and the PLO, the other party," he said.

"If the United States wants the Soviet Union to resume relations with Israel, then why doesn't it recognise the PLO?"

Mr. Arafat also discounted the sincerity of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' offer last month to start peace talks with Jordan.

"I challenge Peres. I tell him we accept the concept of land in exchange for peace," Mr. Arafat said. "But we refuse for him to get both land and peace together."

House votes to postpone debate on arms sale to Jordan

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. House of Representatives has given final approval to legislation that postpones until next year a confrontation with President Reagan over a \$1.9 billion arms sale to Jordan.

The measure was approved by voice vote and sent to Mr. Reagan for his signature, defusing for the moment a controversy many feared could derail delicate negotiations aimed at advancing the Middle East peace process.

The measure prohibits the sale until March 1 unless Jordan enters into "direct and meaningful" negotiations with Israel.

The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 97-1 on October 24.

Mr. Reagan agreed to sign the measure after being persuaded it was better than an open-ended ban on the arms sale, which Congress had appeared ready to approve.

The House vote came after a report from the southern capital of Juba, carried by the official

Rebels ease stance on Khartoum

KHARTOUM (R) — Southern Sudanese rebels have eased their attitude to the Khartoum government, raising hopes for an early start to direct peace talks, politicians said.

The politicians, leftists who are in contact with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), told Reuters the insurgents appeared to have dropped all preconditions for attending a proposed peace conference.

The SPLA, led by Col. John Garang, has been waging a bush war against government forces for over two years. It is the only group of any significant force to continue fighting since the former President Jaafar Numeiri was overthrown in April.

University Professor Taysir Mohammad Ahmad, who last Friday returned from talks with SPLA leaders in Addis Ababa, said the rebels were willing to send a delegation to Khartoum as soon as the government announced security arrangements.

The SPLA and the regular army, however, have accused each other of violating a ceasefire declared last month, while rebel radio reports daily clashes in Upper Nile province.

A report from the southern capital of Juba, carried by the official

Sudanese News Agency SUNA, said the SPLA tried to open up a new front near Khaboeta last week. Khaboeta, in eastern Equatoria, is well outside the rebels' usual area of operation.

The report said 42 SPLA and three government soldiers were lost in clashes there between Monday and Thursday last week.

It said rebels on the new front had moved from positions between Juba and Bor, a garrison town believed by government troops last week after a two-month siege.

SPLA radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), reported on Sunday that government forces suffered heavy casualties last week when they tried to relieve SPLA sieges of Nasir, near the Ethiopian border, Mahwal and Joka.

It said government forces in Equatoria province, further south, also suffered heavy casualties when they attacked SPLA positions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday last week.

In a letter to Prime Minister Ali Jazouli Dafaia Allah in September, Col. Garang suggested that before any peace talks the government should dissolve itself, repeal Islamic law imposed by Numeiri, and a state of emergency and ab-

rogate defence pact with Egypt and Libya.

But Awad Al Karim, a trade union leader briefed by the university professor, said the leftist National Alliance (Tajammu' Watani) believed the SPLA was ready to leave these demands until after a peace conference began.

William Ajal, spokesman for the Transitional Government of Southern Sudan, told Reuters the SPLA had explicitly said these demands need not obstruct an early start to talks.

Professor Mohammad Omer Beshir, a veteran negotiator who met Col. Garang last month, said the obstacle had been "an information gap" on both sides. This was fast evaporating as contacts with the rebels developed, he added.

Western diplomats are less optimistic about prospects for peace, saying Col. Garang has not yet shown he can accept dialogue on terms acceptable to the new government in Khartoum.

They said the only recent change was that the government had accepted the SPLA thesis that the war was about the way the whole of Sudan was ruled, while Col. Garang had dropped repeal of Sharia (Islamic Law) as a precondition.

with Egypt," it quoted Mr. Messaadia as saying during his visit to Tehran in late October.

Algeria joined other Arab states in cutting ties with Egypt in the wake of the 1978 Camp David accords, which led to a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel the following year.

Hostage families gripped by sense of helplessness

NEW YORK (R) — Families of the Americans held hostage in Lebanon held helplessness, frustrated, fearful, angry and desperate. But the worst part, they say, is a sense of utter helplessness.

Last week they suffered agonies after an anonymous caller to a Western news agency said all-Americans believed held hostage in Lebanon had been killed.

The next day a dramatic letter of appeal to President Reagan was delivered in Beirut, apparently confirming four of them were still alive.

"They (the hostages) have no control over what happens and neither do we," says Sue Franceschini, sister of Lawrence Jenico, a 50-year-old Catholic priest who was kidnapped last January.

Peggy Jay, sister of hostage Terry Anderson, describes the plight of her 38-year-old brother

and the others who wrote to Reagan in words that also apply to the families in America.

"There seems to be a desperation... and bewilderment as to why they've been left behind and there doesn't seem to be any movement to get them out," she says. Her brother, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, was seized in March.

Rev. Jenico, Anderson, David Jacobson, 54, who was seized in May, and Thomas Sutherland, 54, a captive since June, are believed to be prisoners of the radical Islamic Jihad group. Jacobson and Sutherland were associated with the American University in Beirut.

Two other Americans, diplomat William Buckley and Beirut University librarian Peter Kilburn, were also seized in the Lebanese capital but their fate is uncertain.

Islamic Jihad has said it killed Buckley in reprisal for an Israeli raid on the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, but the U.S. State Department said it has no confirmation.

Though Kilburn has not been heard from in months, U.S. officials have told his family they believe he is still alive, held by another group in Lebanon.

The three-page hostage letter last week begged Mr. Reagan to change his position and negotiate with their captors, who are seeking the release of 17 Arabs held in Kuwait on bombing charges.

The White House repeated its policy of no concessions to what it terms terrorists, but said it would be willing to talk to appropriate parties to win freedom for the hostages.

It is the administration's lack of progress on the issue that has pro-

voked the most anger among the families.

"This is the perfect opportunity to negotiate. If they don't take this opportunity, I think it is just shameful," says Jay.

The families believe the release of 39 Trans World Airlines hostages in Beirut last July was brought about by U.S. pressure on Israel to free several hundred Arab prisoners.

Say and relatives of the other hostages still held in Beirut felt crushed when their relatives were not included in the TWA release. "They were the forgotten," says Jay.

After months of seeking a meeting with Mr. Reagan, the families were invited to the White House last month. They later expressed gratitude but would not disclose details.

Asian news agencies meet in Tehran

TEHRAN (R) — Thirteen organisations of Asian Pacific News Agencies (OANA) members began four days of talks here Wednesday on ways to improve their information distribution.

"Forging closer links has been problematic in Asia due to size, differing cultures and stages of development," OANA President P. Unnikrishnan, from the Press Trust of India, (PTI) told the delegates.

OANA was supported mainly by the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), which supports similar regional organisations in Africa, West Asia and Latin America, to offer an alternative to major Western news media, he said.

Although created in 1961 OANA was almost moribund until 1982, he said, adding commendable progress had now been made.

Algiers, Cairo reportedly to restore ties

TEHRAN (R) — A Tehran newspaper said Wednesday Algeria and Egypt would restore diplomatic relations soon and that an Algerian envoy who visited Iran recently defended such a reconciliation.

"We must get close to Egypt and prevent it from falling into the lap of the United States," Ahrar

newspaper quoted Mohammad Cherif Messaadia, number two man in Algeria's ruling National Liberation Front, as saying in an interview.

"Was taking distance from Egypt useful? Is Egypt going to give up the Camp David accords? ... One should establish contacts

with Egypt," it quoted Mr. Messaadia as saying during his visit to Tehran in late October.

Algeria joined other Arab states in cutting ties with Egypt in the wake of the 1978 Camp David accords, which led to a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel the following year.

Larnaka gunmen to stand trial in January

NICOSIA (R) — Three pro-Palestinian gunmen were Wednesday committed to stand trial here in January for the murder of three Israelis aboard a yacht in Larnaka last September.

Briton Alan Davidson and two Arabs Khaled Al Khatib and Abdul Hakim Al Khalifa face a maximum of 20 years in jail if convicted, although legal sources said this could be halved with remission for good conduct.

Nicosia's district court accepted a prosecution application to dispense with a preliminary hearing and to commit the three directly to trial at a higher court on Jan. 20. They will remain in custody pending the trial.

The defence agreed to the application but said it would apply for an earlier trial in cooperation with

the prosecution.

The three are accused of killing two men and a woman, all Israelis, when they stormed the yacht "first" in Larnaka Marina on Sept. 25. They surrendered after a nine-hour siege by police and anti-terrorist units.

Israel, which demanded their extradition from Cyprus but was refused, said its Oct. 1 air raid on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headquarters in Tunis was partly in retaliation for the Larnaka killings.

The three demanded the release of Palestinians held in Israel during the siege, including prisoners seized from a yacht off Cyprus in September when Israel said were members of PLO leader Yasser Arafat's elite "force 17" com-

mando squad.

Davidson told Reuters in a December 1983 interview, after being evacuated from Lebanon with Arafat loyalists, that he was a member of Force 17. A former joiner, he said he had joined the PLO earlier that year as a revolt against Mr. Arafat by PLO dissidents began to spread.

The defendants, who were taken together to court in an armoured police vehicle, instead of separately in police cars as on previous occasions, appeared relaxed in court Wednesday.

Security precautions were among the toughest ever seen in a Cypriot court with heavily-armed members of the anti-terrorist squad patrolling outside the court and guarding entrances.

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JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
MAIN CHANNEL	
08:00	Koran
08:30	Songs for Children
09:00	News in Arabic
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855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM	
& party on 95.0 KHz, SW	
Tel: 774111-19	
MAIN CHANNEL	
07:00	Light Music
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Rare collection of stamps goes on display

By Olga Mikhail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Deputising for Her Royal Highness Princess Alia, His Royal Highness Prince Assem Wednesday opened a Jordanian and international stamp exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday.

The exhibition, the first of its kind to be held in Jordan, is jointly organised by the Ministry of Communications and the Jordanian Philatelic Club in cooperation with diplomatic missions in Jordan.

In addition to rare and precious stamps from Jordan, 40 different Arab and foreign countries are participating with a large collection of their early stamps.

On exhibition are recent Jordanian stamps issued to mark King Hussein's birthday as well as postcards and albums which are on sale at the temporary post office opened by the Ministry of Communications at the Royal Cultural Centre on this special occasion.

Philately is regarded by many people as both a science and an art; a science because it involves the systematic study and classification of materials and an art

because the principles of arrangement and display reflect individual tastes.

Although postal systems are as old as the Babylonian empire and postal historians avidly collect mail dating back to the 14th century, the postage stamp and philately were on innovation of the 19th Century. The first postage stamp was issued in Great Britain in 1840 and the purpose of these stamps, popularly known as Penny Blacks, was the convenient prepayment and accounting of postal charges.

Jordanian Philatelic Club

In Jordan, the Jordanian Philatelic Club was formed in 1979 after 25 years of continuous efforts on the part of a group of Jordanian philatelists. The club, however, is operating through the moral and financial support extended by the Ministry of Communications.

Mr. Mousa Al Dabbas, member of the founding and administrative committee at the club, explained to the Jordan Times that the club's main aim is to introduce the importance of stamps in its economic and cultural aspects to the Jordanian public. "The club," he added, "also works on improving

the standard of Jordanian stamps both locally and internationally, in terms of shape and content (colour, print and paper)." Mr. Dabbas continued that the club provides different kinds of Arabic and foreign stamps, albums, catalogues and magazines for the 170 club members according to their needs and interest.

Mr. Dabbas is exhibiting around 400 stamps, representing nearly 40 countries. All the stamps were issued in 1949 to mark the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

Mr. Dabbas's collection is unique in the sense that it includes stamps from many colonial countries with have since then gained their independence, such as Indo-China, Guinea, Congo, the UAE, Aden and Jordan. The Jordanian collection also includes a stock of rare stamps, some of which date back to 1921.

The first issue of stamps bearing the name of Jordan were printed in 1920. Before a stock of stamps had been printed by the Arab government of King Faisal and continued to be used until the year 1920 when the stamps of Palestine came into use and were overprinted with the word Transjordan in Arabic.

Ministry of Communications stamps issued to mark the King's 50th birthday

The Jordanian Philatelic Club has so far organised four stamp exhibitions, but this is their first activity organised on an international level. The opening ceremony was attended by Minister of Communications Moheyyeddin Al Hussein and foreign ambassadors to Jordan. The exhibition will continue until Nov. 19.

Rifai returns from Syria with joint statement

(Continued from page 1)

the Arabs to realise their aspirations, liberate the usurped lands and restore Arab rights.

Referring to Jordanian-Syrian relations, the communiqué said the two countries pledged to move ahead with continued cooperation and coordination of economic plans to enhance the Arab Common Market and lift all trade restrictions on national agricultural and industrial products of each other with the ultimate goal of creating an integrated market. Both sides agreed to take all necessary measures to achieve this goal, the statement said.

The communiqué said Jordan and Syria agreed to reactivate their Higher Joint Committee and sub-committees affiliated to it and extend support and backing for joint ventures between the two countries.

It said Mr. Rifai also extended an invitation to Dr. Kasim to visit Jordan. The Syrian premier accepted the invitation and would soon be making the visit on a date to be fixed as soon as possible, the communiqué added.

During his stay in Damascus,

Mr. Rifai held two rounds of talks with President Assad in addition to extensive discussions with Dr. Kasim on various issues. A high-level official delegation accompanying Mr. Rifai included a number of cabinet members and they held talks with their Syrian counterparts on means to bolster Jordanian-Syrian cooperation in various fields.

PLO leaders discuss moves

(Continued from page 1)

arrived here Tuesday on a several day visit to Jordan.

Mr. Arafat Wednesday received a message from King Hassan of Morocco.

The Palestinian News Agency Wafa said the message was delivered by King Hassan's envoy Ahmad Abu Sufah and dealt with the latest developments in the region.

The Gulf News Agency reported Wednesday from Baghdad that the PLO has postponed its emergency Executive Committee meeting in a move "made imperative by current developments"

The delegation that accompanied Mr. Rifai to Damascus included Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jassem, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Finance Minister Hanna Odeh, Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher and a number of senior officials from various ministries and organisations.

Liberian coup fizzles out

(Continued from page 1)

short-lived rejoicing in the streets of Monrovia. His whereabouts on Wednesday were unknown.

The streets of the capital were deserted, according to diplomats and other residents contacted by telephone and telefax from outside the country. Truckloads of heavily-armed soldiers patrolled the centre and outskirts of the city.

Calm returned in the morning after sporadic shooting during the night. But fighting seemed to be continuing on the main road leading from Monrovia to Robertsfield airport, diplomats said.

The radio stations called on civil servants and public corporation employees to return to work.

Diplomats said most of the fighting appeared to have been concentrated around the executive mansion where Mr. Doe personally led a counter-attack against rebel troops. The building suffered heavy damage, they said.

Mr. Doe appeared on television in full military gear Tuesday night and said the attempt had been crushed.

Lawzi, Fayeze praise strong relations with Soviet Union

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Wednesday praised the strong relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan and paid tribute to the USSR for its support of just Arab causes.

Mr. Lawzi was speaking at a meeting with a visiting delegation from the Kabardino Balkar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic which arrived in Amman Tuesday to take part in the King Hussein's 50th birthday celebrations.

Mr. Lawzi also spoke of the wide scope of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Jordan in technical, cultural and scientific fields.

The delegation's arrival to take part in the celebrations manifests the Soviet Union's support for the role King Hussein is playing to bolster cooperation between the two countries, Mr. Lawzi added.

The head of the delegation replied with a brief speech praising Jordan's policies and progress under King Hussein's leadership and voiced his happiness in participating in the celebrations starting Thursday.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Bahjat Talhoumi, president of the Jordanian Soviet Friendship Society, and Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk as well as a number of House members.

Later the Soviet delegation was received by Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayeze in the presence of Mr. Talhoumi and the Soviet ambassador to Jordan.

At the meeting, Mr. Fayeze voiced Parliament's support for worldwide parliamentarians in their endeavours to establish world peace and to end disputes by peaceful means.

Mr. Fayeze spoke of Jordan's endeavours to achieve peace in the Middle East through an international conference to be attended by all concerned parties and the two superpowers. He spoke also about the sufferings of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule and Israel's arbitrary actions against the local population.

The leader of the delegation said that the Soviet Union is concerned about the establishment of peace and settling disputes among nations through peaceful means.

JD 10m Queen Alia Hospital opens its doors today

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — On the occasion of the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein, a new private hospital will be inaugurated in Amman. Situated in the new Tareq Municipality, behind the Sports City, the Queen Alia Hospital is expected to become the best-equipped hospital in the country as well as in the whole region, according to Dr. Khaled Beseiso, managing director of the Jordan Medical Corporation.

Dr. Beseiso told the Jordan Times that the construction of the hospital started in September 1982 and was completed two or three months ago, according to the original project schedule. The hospital's three buildings occupy an area of 40 dunums, including parking lots and green areas.

The first building is the main hospital building of seven storeys, four of which are for patients and three for services such as operating theatres, X-ray departments, laboratories, emergency room, an intensive care unit and other modern facilities. The capacity of this building is designed to be for 150 beds, though there are only 42 at present, properly divided into wards for the care of all kinds of patients.

The second building includes 26 out-patient clinics in three storeys, all run by highly specialised doctors.

The third building is reserved for the nurses' living quarters, with the capacity to house 120 nurses, although there are only 50 at present, a number which, according to Dr. Beseiso, is adequate for the present patient capacity of the hospital.

Future expansion

Dr. Beseiso added that the hospital has also been designed for future expansion, since all facilities have been provided to care for a total of 300 in-patients; an additional building of 150 more beds could be added in the future if the need arises. Besides the nurses, there are at present four resident doctors at the hospital.

The Queen Alia Hospital was initiated as one of the projects of the Jordan Medical Corporation, and financed entirely by the corporation with aid from abroad for the balance. Dr. Beseiso said. The total cost reached JD 10 million. The administration of the hospital

was then handed over to a private company specialised in hospital administration.

Dr. Beseiso said that the hospital is looking forward to serving all patients in one place, eliminating the need to refer them to other hospitals for treatment. He said that the hospital has been designed to fulfill all medical needs and that it is equipped with the best facilities and staffed by highly qualified personnel, making it comparable to any hospital in Europe or the United States. It includes modern and elaborate facilities for dialysis, chemotherapy and most surgeries, although, Dr. Beseiso said, is not presently ready for open heart surgery.

Regional hospital

While one may question the need for such a high standard hospital in the capital of a country which still lacks proper primary health care in many rural areas, Dr. Beseiso explained that one purpose of the Queen Alia Hospital is to cater not only for Jordanian patients, but also for patients from all Arab countries who may be presently forced to look for specialised treatment in Western countries. "It will be easier, and cheaper, for them to come here instead and they will find the same standard with the added benefit of Arabic-speaking doctors who can put them at ease," he said.

Other physicians in Jordan share the same high expectations. "Many Jordanians used to go abroad for treatment and, although the number has dramatically declined, some still do without any justification, under the misled counsel of ignorant doctors. It will only cost them more money since Jordan has all the facilities one needs in the medical field, particularly in some of the most modern hospitals in Amman which have the best possible equipment and logistics," said Dr. Salah Salah, a neurosurgeon in Amman, who believes the Queen Alia Hospital will easily be at the top of the list of the well-equipped, efficient hospitals.

AAC board meets to review expanding freight operations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Air Cargo (AAC) company board Wednesday opened a meeting to discuss, among other things, enlarging AAC's fleet of aircraft to cope with the increasing demand for air freight in the Middle East region.

The board is meeting under the chairmanship of Mohammad Fathi, the chairman of the board and director of the AAC in Baghdad.

According to Mr. Ghassan Ali, director of AAC's operations, the

board will review a report on AAC's operation in the first nine months of 1985, and will consider increasing the fleet. He said that the past few months witnessed a tremendous increase in the company's operations, raising AAC's revenues by a 58 per cent. Also to be reviewed, he said, is a report on the budget for the coming year.

The AAC, a joint Iraqi-Jordanian venture was founded in 1983 and is owned jointly by Alia and Iraqi Airways.

Captain and crew of

U.L.C.C TANKER

RED SEAGULL

Congratulate His Majesty

King Hussein on his 50th

birthday



Noor Al Hussein Foundation to establish school

(Continued from page 1)

ers in the field of education in order to develop a unique educational model for Jordan and the region.

The school will provide outstanding students from Jordan and other Arab countries with the highest quality of education. As a laboratory school, it will contribute to the development of education throughout the region. The provision of student scholarships in addition to its residential boarding concept will allow students from all parts of Jordan, particularly those from rural and remote areas, to benefit from this special school.

There is, at present, no provision in the educational system for the preparation of outstanding students with special abilities and talents. The Jubilee School which will be an exemplary secondary school will provide educational opportunities for these students to reach more fully the potential of their talents and to assume responsible leadership roles in the

country.

In achieving its essential aims, the Jubilee School will serve as an example of the commitment to quality education and as a laboratory to put advanced programmes into practice. It will stimulate higher standards of education for secondary education, as well as contribute to the development and testing of curricula, instructional materials and methods, and support educational activities.

The Jubilee School will also provide programmes and training for faculty from other schools in the Kingdom and neighbouring countries, and offer facilities and resources to student groups for conferences, meetings, and special educational programmes.

The school will be an autonomous institution under Royal Patronage, governed by a Board of Trustees and an Executive Committee, as well as a faculty council. It will provide education at a secondary level (grades 10-12) for students 15 to 18 years of age, and will be composed of

two sections of approximately 300 boys and 300 girls.

The Jubilee School will be a boarding school in order to permit enrolment of students from across the country, including rural and remote areas. It will also permit extended learning opportunities and allow for concentrated study leading to enriched educational experience and well-rounded education.

All instruction and activities will be highly individualised in order to encourage self-reliance, high motivation, and personal responsibility, skills of investigation, problem-solving, creativity, and independent thinking.

The Jordanian government has allocated 210 dunums for the school. The campus will be located close to the Royal Scientific Society and the University of Jordan, allowing for interaction between the students and experts associated with those institutions. The school will provide facilities

to encourage the development of the widest possible range of student abilities and interests. These include classrooms, science and language laboratories, art and technical workshops, a library, hobby rooms, a gymnasium, and outdoor and indoor playing fields.

The Jubilee School will be a unique institution in Jordan. It will meet a pressing need for the education of outstanding students with leadership potential, and Jordan will reap a rich reward by deliberately training its best talent. It is hoped that the Jubilee School's example will stimulate higher standards in other schools, as well as enhance the status of the teaching profession in Jordan. Through an institution such as this, and the continuing progress in the development of the educational system in the country, Jordan can provide the dedicated leadership necessary for the challenging years ahead.

F.A. KETTANEH & CO. LTD.

extend congratulation on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday.



The Director and Staff of the German Protestant Institute for Archaeology extend their best wishes to His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of His 50th birthday on Thursday, November 14, 1985.

SOSEMA-MATEX Consortium

(Swiss - Dutch)

The Aqaba fuel project — Director and staff congratulate His Majesty King Hussein on his 50th birthday and join the joy of the Kingdom on the golden jubilee.

ON the occasion of the 50th birthday of H.M. King Hussein we respectfully send our best wishes for his continuing success and long life.



Westinghouse
Defence International

OTIS

OTIS ELEVATOR OVERSEAS LTD.

(Jordan Branch)

congratulate His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of his 50th birthday.

HANBO

General Construction Co., Ltd. wish to extend their congratulations and to offer their sincere best wishes for the future prosperity of His Majesty, the government and people of Jordan on the occasion of His Majesty the King's 50th Birthday.

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H.M. King Hussein and The Royal Family of Jordan

By Suleiman Mousa

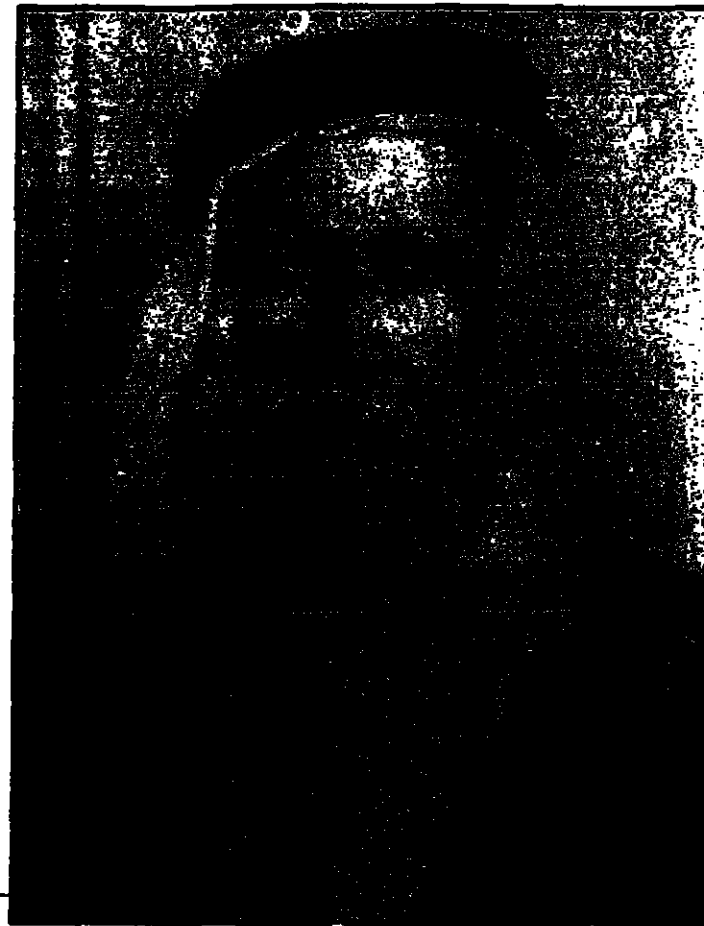
HIS MAJESTY King Hussein is a scion of the most honoured family in both the Arab and Muslim worlds. He is the 40th descendant in the line of descent from the Prophet Mohammad who brought the world the message of Islam 14 centuries ago. The Hashemites acquired their family title from Hashem, the great grandfather of the Prophet. The Prophet had two grandsons from his daughter Fatima: Hassan, whose descendants are known as Ashraf (or Sharifs) and Hussein, whose descendants are known as Sultans (masters). The family of King Hussein belongs to the line of Sharifs, whose country was always Hejaz with its two holy cities of Mecca and Medina. Throughout the centuries, the families of the Ashraf successively held the reins of rule in the Hejaz. The House of Beni Aun, to which King Hussein belongs, was able to establish its supremacy in the Hejaz during the first half of the 19th century. Its founder, Mohammed Ibn Aun, was the Emir of Mecca (or rather Hejaz) for 27 years and his sons and grandsons ruled in Mecca from 1827 to 1925 with a break of only 9 years.

Sharif Hussein, the great grandfather of King Hussein, was a man of independent views and with a strong character. He expressed his disapproval of the way in which the people of Hejaz were treated, and as a result the Ottoman Sultan of Turkey, Abdul Hamid II, invited him to live near him in Istanbul. The Sharif remained in exile for 16 years with his family and four sons: Ali, Abdullah, Faisal and Zaid. His chance came in 1908 when the Sultan appointed him Emir of Mecca.

Through his strong will, fair dealings and a great capacity for work, Sharif Hussein was able to establish himself in a position of leadership. He curbed the authority of the Turkish Wali (governor) and proved his loyalty to the Sultan by leading expeditions to the province of Najd and by subduing insurgent tribes. He led a successful expedition to the province of Assir where the local Emir had rebelled and the Sharif was able to relieve the besieged Ottoman garrison.

His three elder sons participated in military expeditions and in affairs of administration. He had good connections in the capital and was well informed of trends and developments. His brother, Sharif Nasser, was a member of the Senate and his two sons Abdullah and Faisal represented the Hejaz in the Parliament, and through them he was well acquainted with the Arab movement. Arabs looked to him as a leader and in general he was highly esteemed. When the leaders of the Committee of Union of Progress (CUP) (Turkish) asked him his opinion about participation in the war, he advised strongly against it. A new wali was sent to crush the power of the Sharif, but the wali was outmanoeuvred and removed.

Not long after Turkey became involved in the First World War,



Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali (1853-1931)



King Talal Ibn Abdullah (1909-1972)

the Sharif was approached from three directions: the Turks wanted him to send a force of volunteers to participate in the attack on the Suez Canal, the Arab underground wanted him to assume leadership of their movement and the British wanted him to rise in rebellion against his overlords.

The Sharif considered the alternatives for some months and rejected the Turkish offer of allegiance due to the Turks' harsh measures in Syria. He believed the pledges of Great Britain and led the Arabs in battle in June 1916 to attain their unity and independence in the Great Arab



King Abdullah Ibn Hussein (1882-1951)



King Hussein Ibn Talal

Revolt. Regular and irregular Arab troops marched from Mecca in the south to Aleppo in the north. The four sons of the Sharif commanded Arab troops in the field. Sharif Hussein was proclaimed king. But the end of the war brought disillusionment. Great Britain and France divided the Arab countries among themselves. As a compromise an Arab state was established in Iraq under Faisal, and one in Transjordan under Abdullah. Hussein himself refused to sign a treaty with Great Britain because he was requested to recognize mandates in Iraq and Palestine. Left alone, he was attacked by Ibn Saud, defeated and had to spend his last years as an exile in Cyprus.

Against this historical background Emir Hussein Ibn Talal was proclaimed King of Jordan on Aug. 11 1952. He was not yet of age because, according to the constitution, the sovereign should attain the age of 18 years. So he went to Sandhurst Military College in England for study and training.

He had some painful experience of the dangers facing leaders in the Arab World. He had witnessed his grandfather King Abdullah shot by the bullet of an assassin while entering Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem for Friday prayers. It was a miracle that he himself was not hit.

On his accession to the throne on May 2, 1953 he had to face many problems. Foremost of these problems was the fact that almost half of his people were Palestinian (a good many of them dispossessed refugees) whose souls were wounded and whose hearts were full of bitterness. During the first four years of his reign, the Israelis mounted continuous raids across the armistice line. Those raids carried considerable destruction and loss of life. The army could not cope with the situation. Bitterness increased and the feeling of instability prevailed. Then there were the British allies who neither pressured the Israelis nor made the army strong enough to retaliate.

King Hussein had to feel his way amid mounting difficulties. It was thought that the Baghdad Pact

may bring more security to Jordan, but the idea was soon abandoned in the face of fierce opposition from other Arab states. The King took a bold step in Arabising the army and was able, by sheer strength of will, to surmount and overcome internal troubles



King Hussein Ibn Talal listens to a speech by his first prime minister, Rashid Taha, after being sworn in as King.

King at 50

SO MUCH has been written and said about His Majesty King Hussein that it has become somewhat difficult for anyone to add anything new. At least, this is what might appear to be the case at a glance.

The truth is that we have seen and heard a lot about the King and this country, but our full story is yet to be told. So long as there is Jordan, or Arabs, or Middle East, or even people on this earth, there will be something to research and say about this charismatic leader and statesman and his reign.

The King's life is not only his. It never was. What he thinks and does is part of history itself. But more important perhaps is the fact that this is only the beginning of a long march. There still lies ahead some great challenges, both old and new, and the real, hard achievements are yet to be attained. However, we go into the future confident that with our leader's wisdom and vision, his courage and tireless work, our cause and that of humanity will triumph in the end.

None of us underestimates, or should underestimate, the troubles and the risks that this country has always had to take and will continue to take in order to achieve its objectives and aspirations. But, at the same time, we must not for a moment forget that the course which His Majesty the King has charted for us is a sound one and the most promising under the present circumstances.

At 50, the King can be justly proud of his great achievements on behalf of his people and his nation. He can always count on our unwavering and unending loyalty, support and love for him. He can be sure that a great number of his subjects believe in his leadership not only with their hearts but with their minds and conscience as well.

Happy birthday Your Majesty.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Long-sought meeting

PRIME MINISTER Zaid Al Rifai's visit to Damascus is designed to open a new chapter of relations between Jordan and Syria. The talks he is conducting with Syrian officials reflect the desire of both countries to resume cooperation in political and economic fields that would benefit the peoples of both countries. Needless to say that the leaders in Damascus and Amman realise the dimension of the dangers threatening their peoples and therefore they are taking steps to confront them together and with joint efforts. Any coming together and cooperation between them is good for the Arab nation as a whole, and a strength for the Arabs in their confrontation with the common enemy. The dangers that confront us are too immense for any one country to battle on its own. Therefore, the meeting between Damascus and Amman and their close cooperation are for the common good. Such efforts should ensure success of Arab efforts in dealing with the common enemy. The meeting in Damascus revives hopes and rekindles expectation for a brighter prospect for the Arabs and their endeavours.

Al Dustour: Reviving unity

AS THE Jordanians and Syrians embark on a new era of relations their minds focus on the common challenges and the dangers threatening their countries. The present intensification of Zionist arbitrary measures inside the occupied Arab lands and the continued occupation of Arab territory as well as the arrogance of the Israeli leaders make the leaders of Jordan and Syria realise the importance of their coming together and coordinating their steps and policies. Their joint efforts should concentrate on means of liberating our lands and holy places and ending Israeli occupation for ever. The aim of reviving the eastern front vis-a-vis Israel should be our task in the present circumstances; and both Jordan and Syria should together form a unity characterised by solidarity and close cooperation to serve the interests of both peoples. As we are at the threshold of new relations we should not look back to the rift and the divisions that kept the two people apart. The resumption of natural relations between the two countries should be made to benefit them on the domestic and foreign fronts; and both people now expect more steps leading to total reconciliation, and greater benefits.

Sawt Al Shaab: Double joy

THE REJOICING in Jordan as the people celebrate King Hussein's 50th birthday is deepened and increased with the new steps this country is taking under his leadership to restore relations with Syria and strengthen ties with a sister country. The resumption of relations with Syria and the embarking on a new phase in bilateral cooperation are an embodiment of the solidarity among brothers and a manifestation of the principles of political strategy required at present to confront the common enemy and the common dangers. Our joy for the King's birthday is being made greater with the start of negotiations between Jordan and Syria to bolster their cooperation and develop them in political and economic fields. The current talks in Damascus represent a step leading to others on the road to achieve our aspirations and fulfil our goals.



King Abdullah Ibn Hussein with young Hussein at his side



The late Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali surrounded by notables and dignitaries before the Roman Theatre during his memorable visit to Amman in 1924 with his eldest son Emir Ali, who later became the King of Hijaz.



The late Talal Ibn Abdullah, then a prince, visiting the Mahatta stadium in the 40s.

and external pressure all through 1957.

Early in 1958 the union with Iraq seemed to offer stable support for Jordan, but the coup d'etat in Iraq that year left Jordan more lonely than at any time before. The tragic death of young King Faisal II and other members of the Hashemite family was a heavy personal blow, but King Hussein set aside his personal feelings and, in the interests of his country, normal relations with Iraq were resumed after two years.

1967 was another tragic year for the Arabs in general and for Jordan in particular. King Hussein felt bound by honour, and national duty to stand by other Arab countries in the hour of supreme crisis and danger.

The war ended with the West Bank occupied by the enemy. The King worked very hard to put his country on its feet again and achieved considerable success in rebuilding and healing wounds. His realistic and moderate outlook gained sympathy and understanding all over the world. He worked always for close relations among the Arab states, and the last few years witnessed steady co-ordination in policy in particular with Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

The leadership of King Hussein has been proved again and again during his 33 years of reign. Personally he is a man of an immense sense of humanity. Perhaps he is unique among other rulers of the world in the number of amnesties he granted time after time to individuals under different types of court sentences. Many are those who were pardoned and given another chance by King Hussein and who were able once more to attain high positions in the service of the country.

His personal humanity and modesty lead him to treat Jordanians as brothers and not as subjects. At times of distress he is always the first citizen to help. Jordanians are his family, for whose welfare he works tirelessly, with love and unbounded sense of dedication. For that and other qualities, he gained the loyalty, love and respect of all.

Suleiman Mousa is a Jordanian writer and historian who has written and published a number of books, mainly on the history of Jordan, and the Arab national movement. Some of his books were translated into English and French. His books include "The History of Jordan," "The Arab Movement between 1908 and 1924" and "T.E. Lawrence - an Arab view." Mr. Mousa is currently serving as cultural adviser to the Mayor of Amman.

Jordan's political moves for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East

By Adnan Abu Odeh

THE subject here is Jordan as the motivator of political moves in the Middle East.

Jordan's current political moves, like any other conscientious political effort, is governed by a number of factors at the top of which are the objectives of the moves, their limitations and hazards.

There is also the need to monitor the obstacles in the way given the material and moral resources available so that these resources can be employed to the greatest degree possible, always keeping an eye on the other side and what it is doing and aiming at.

All of this is done within adherence to the general framework in which movement is considered and made, taking into consideration also the need to enlist the greatest support for it nationally and internationally.

Any move requires an initiative on the part of any one of the concerned parties in a problem. This initiative carries in it elements of excitement and interest for the other party that would make that party respond to the initiative and open a dialogue about it through various departments and institutions, political parties and the information media. The dialogue would result in a change in the position of the parties, a progress towards a solution and a settlement of an issue between two conflicting parties or a weakening of the other party's stand and position. The dialogue could be followed by another result but would keep the subject open for discussion.

The difference is clear between a political move and a political stand which is static and apparent only through contact with an outside element or power.

I meant from this introduction to differentiate between the political move and the political stand to avoid any confusion between them. Such confusion would cause misunderstanding of the situation. The political stand is not a substitute for the political move and vice-versa.

In applying this concept on the Arab-Israeli conflict, since 1967 war we can notice the following: — As a result of the June war Israel found itself in a new situation, occupying a land with better defences than before and through

its endeavours it has been able to convince the world opinion that what happened was a pre-emptive strike and not an aggression on the Arab Nation.

On the other side of the scale, the Arab armies lost the land and came out nearly totally devastated and incapable of defending what was left of their land in three Arab countries. Israel was satisfied and pleased and was content only to announce its stand vis-a-vis a peaceful settlement. This situation was unacceptable for us because it emanated from an unstable situation resulting from the emergence of a victor and a vanquished.

President Nasser of Egypt expressed his views on the occasion by announcing that Egypt accepts peace but refuses capitulation. His Majesty King Hussein declared that Israel can get peace in exchange for a withdrawal but we cannot allow Israel to get peace and land together.

The Arabs realised that the situation was not in their favour and that they should make a move. On this assumption Jordan and Egypt worked together to have the United Nations Security Council adopt Resolution 242. This meant that they moved to forestall Israel's plans and prevent it from making gains in the occupied Arab territories and imposing a de facto situation on the Arabs as it did after the 1948 war. After the resolution there was no real progress for a solution and the situation was in deadlock.

— Egypt and Syria launched a war on Israel in 1973 and were joined after some days by units from other Arab countries including Jordan.

War, by definition, is a political action in a different form. This means that a war was necessary after Arab political moves failed to implement resolution 242 and the result of this war was Resolution 338 and the convening of the Geneva peace conference leading to the signing of three agreements between Egypt, Syria and Israel. But this did not lead to a just and durable peace and the situation remained deadlocked.

— Egypt, Jordan and Syria and the PLO tried, towards the end of 1976 and the beginning of 1977, to lay down a plan for a political move which called for the resumption of the Geneva conference

to be attended by the Arab side in a unified delegation. Before the Arabs reached a final formula on this endeavour, President Sadat paid a visit to Jerusalem and this led to the signing of the Camp David Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty which failed in achieving progress towards solving the Palestine problem.

— Jordan and the PLO, on Feb. 11, 1985, reached an accord for political moves based on the resolutions at the Fez Arab summit.

This move, which was called the King Hussein initiative, was backed by European political circles and roused interest in the United States but failed to win the support of the Soviet Union.

The Arab countries were split on this issue; some of them supporting and others rejecting this formula. Israel rejected the accord. The moves emanating from these accord are still continuing because very important powers support it and because it is based on U.N. resolutions and calls for the convening of an international conference and also because it reflects the true and real picture of Jordanian-Palestinian relations and because the Palestinian people under Israeli rule have shown enthusiasm for it.

Israel, for its part, has worked against this political move: First by proposing the ruling party's "Allon plan". Since this proposal was designed to give Israel advantages and perpetuate its occupation of Arab land it has been rejected outright.

Second, by a move on the part of the Likud bloc to implement an agreement included in the treaty with Egypt that concerns the Palestinians in the occupied territories. The Likud moves were directed at Egypt alone and ended in nothing when the two sides interpreted the Camp David accord in different perspectives.

Apart from these two moves on Israel's part the only thing it did was to declare its position with regard to peace and continued at the same time to exploit the time factor to change facts in the occupied Arab territories hoping that the Arab side will accept its terms in the end and a de facto solution will be imposed on the Arabs.

Israel hopes that the Arabs will accept what they had rejected yesterday and what they refuse to accept today exactly the same way as happened after the 1948.

war when the Arab countries refused to recognise Israel and its proposals as a basis for a peaceful settlement but later accepted them, individually in 1967 and unanimously in 1982 in the Fez resolutions.

It is important to note that the parties that made the political moves are the same that are directly involved in the conflict. Israel is on one side and Jordan, Egypt, Syria and the PLO on the other. All the moves have been made by the parties directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. What about other Arab countries?

The answer is clear and understood. The other Arab countries were satisfied by declaring their political stands and kept aloof from any political move because they are not involved directly in the conflict nor in its consequences.

Those parties directly involved should themselves make the moves.

This policy presented itself clearly in various Arab summit resolutions, particularly in three of them: Resolutions adopted at the Khartoum summit which was held after the 1967 war and before Resolution 242; the Rabat summit of 1974 which considered the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; and the Baghdad summit of 1978 which was held to deal with the consequences of the Camp David accord and finally the Fez summit of 1982 which issued the Arab peace plan.

Except for the Khartoum summit decisions, all other summit resolutions were maintained and they are now being employed to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Hence, for the past 18 years, there has been a general Arab stand interrupted by political moves and initiatives which were carried out by Arab parties who are directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict in the forms of separate, bilateral or mass political moves.

Probably the best to describe the status quo are two common slogans: the first slogan says Palestine is the agony of a people, while the second slogan says Palestine is an Arab case. There is no doubt that both slogans have their insinuations, the first slogan suggests that the Palestinian people

are in charge of their agony and therefore they should try to upgrade their situation to lead a normal and healthy life like all other nations. This implies that the Palestinian people should be in a situation which forces them to start a political move and initiative rather than relying on an established political stand, since they are directly in charge of their agony and misery. If others are satisfied with sticking to "the stand policy" regardless of which party be it Israel or any of the other Arab countries, they would react this way because either they are satisfied with the state of political stagnation as is the case of Israel or that they do not feel the heaviness of the Palestinian agony like the situation in other confrontation states.

These two views, despite their difference, particularly in all what is related to their behaviour, should have been complemented, and out of which an Arab-Palestinian pressure should have emerged, especially if we consider the American and European interests in the Arab countries and the strategic importance of the Arab World for all influential world countries.

It was expected that the Palestinian people, represented through the PLO in collaboration with an Arab country, should have started a political move on the international arena, since the Palestinian people have been facing the misery of a disappearing land and identity, and they were supposed to launch efforts before anyone else.

It was assumed that the Palestinian people's requests and needs should not be in harmony with other countries' demands and needs. It was therefore very natural that the demands of those who are ashore, since those who get water into their lungs differ from those who only smell the agony and sorrow.

The Rabat summit and its resolutions calling for Arab countries support for all what the PLO decides — since the organisation was considered the sole legitimate representative of all Palestinian people — was the first majority consensus that the Palestinians themselves should work towards solving their problems. But the PLO, which has

lived with and within almost all Arab political regimes and on which it depended, had left it unable to disentangle itself from Arab solutions for their problem. A lot of the PLO factions adopt the measures of the countries they live in or the measures of the countries they cooperate with, although it was understood from the Rabat resolutions that the PLO has liberated itself from all these chains of having to follow the political policies of the countries supporting it.

Although it was understood from the Rabat resolution that the Arab countries should follow the decisions set forward by the PLO and not vice-versa. In another meaning, it was understood from the resolution then that the Palestinian moves should be complemented by the Arab stand and not that the PLO should submerge itself in the Arab stand.

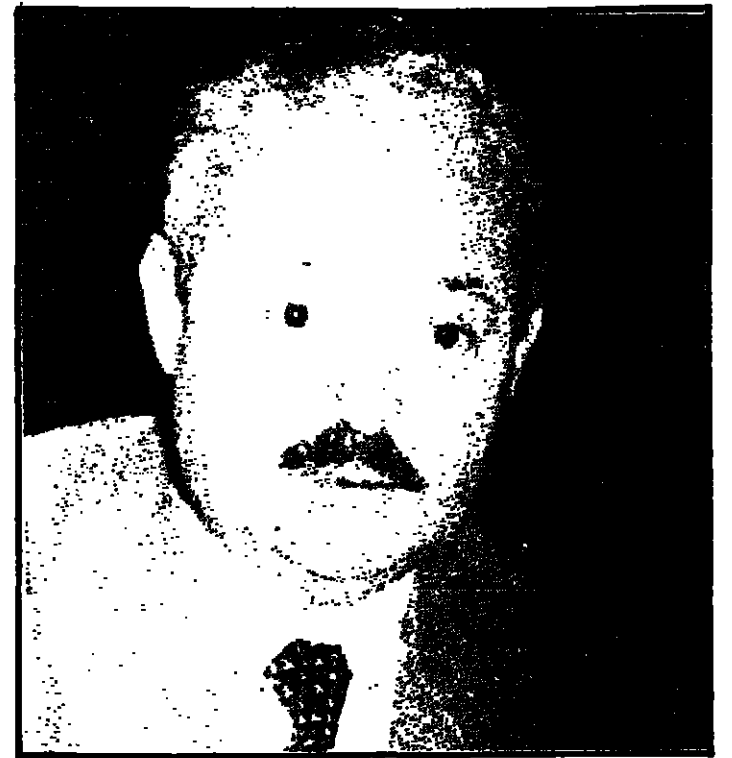
What aggravates the situation more is that such a complementary situation has until now not revealed itself, as the Arab countries remained committed to the 1974 decision, whereas the Palestinian people are crying for help and for political moves to pull them out from the mud.

If we want to realise the difference between the Arab and the PLO situations, one only has to read Arabic newspapers published in the Gulf areas or in the northern African countries to realise how far their peace endeavours and evaluation of any political move are diverted from the way they should be, although I am not trying to blame them but rather to explain a natural human behaviour.

Vis-a-vis this status quo, one might ask oneself, why hurry, let us wait for better chances which include better prospects for peace or feasible proposals.

To those we say, this opinion means surrender to the status quo and providing it with a most important element for its success, namely time. We also say: the Palestinian people under occupation disagree with you since the people do not plan to see their destiny as "something unknown". We also tell them that such a stand is not a political policy, but rather forsaking political action.

One might ask: Why do the Palestinian people under occupa-



tion not make an initiative to solve the problem with Israel without any consideration to the other Arab parties' stands?

We say in reply that the state of imbalance existing between Israel on the one hand and the Palestinian people on the other, whether inside or outside the occupied territories, does not allow the Palestinians any chance to reach a balanced and reasonable settlement with the Israelis — a solution that can secure for them a free homeland recognised by the world. If this imbalance is to be adjusted there must be an Arab backing for any political move and there must be an Arab weight that would support any political initiative. In other words, there must be some Palestinian moves within the context of an overall Arab move and within a comprehensive Arab stand.

On this background of stalemate and no-war-no-peace situation we find the political stand blocking the political moves and we find that the moves require Arab backing. In this situation, Jordan, in view of its special relationship with the Palestinian people, assumes a special position because it is the only Arab state that finds itself divided between the concepts of two slogans: Palestine, a people's

tragedy, and Palestine, an Arab cause. This means that the Jordan is the only Arab state which shares with the Palestinian people, inside as well as outside the occupied territories, their real tragedy and at the same time Jordan shares with the other Arab countries their responsibilities towards Palestine.

In other words, Jordan's half falls within the circle of tragedy, which falls on it to make moves, and the other half falls in the Arab responsibility which adheres to the political stand. As a result Jordan finds itself in a position that allows it to achieve integration that has not been achieved until now, an integration of its stand with its moves.

Based on this assumption King Hussein proposed to the National Council in Amman last year that: — Either the PLO makes its moves on its own and Jordan will support or opt to make joint moves with Jordan.

King Hussein said any joint moves will first seek Arab backing for Jordan and the PLO and with the Arabs both parties can move on the international arena. The PLO chose to make joint moves with Jordan.

After prolonged meetings, (Continued on page 9)

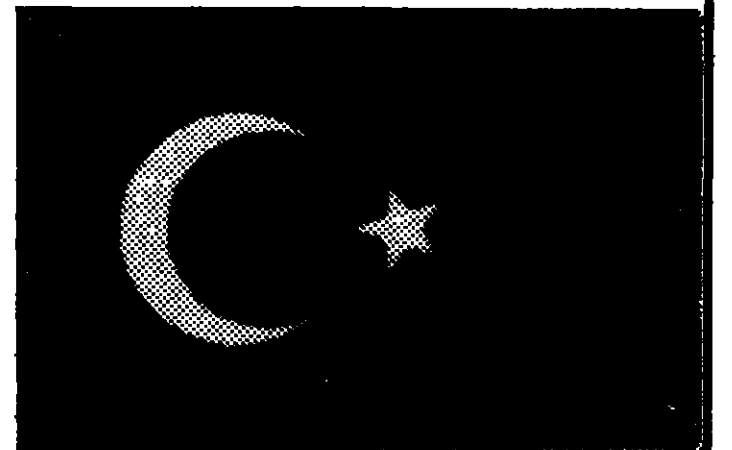
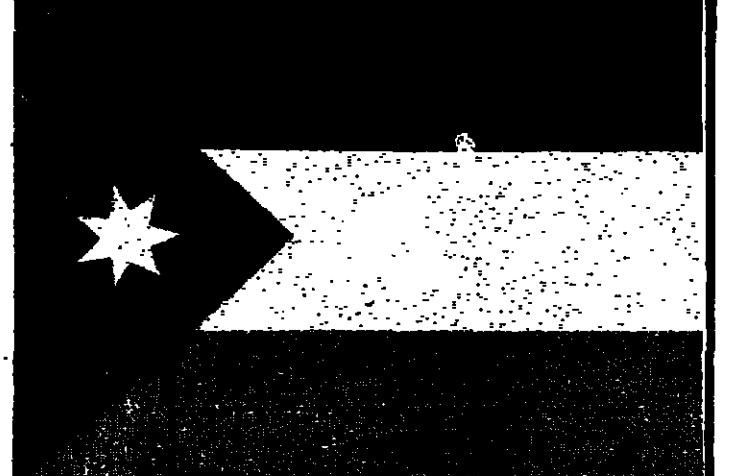


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Congratulates His Majesty King Hussein, the government and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the occasion of the 50th birthday of His Majesty the King and wishes continued prosperity to Jordan under the wise leadership of His Majesty.

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King Hussein and the Hashemites: Devotion for Arab national aspirations

Star of Bani Hashem

THIS IS the title of a new book by Iraqi author Nassir Hussein Kassab focuses on the Great Arab Revolt led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali, the formation of the Emirate in Transjordan and the progress of the Kingdom of Jordan under King Hussein. The book, in two volumes, tells the story of the Great Arab Revolt by the Hashemite family which had preserved the struggle of the Arabs to achieve unity and independence.

The book provides a preface in which the author proves the presence of links between the Hashemite family and the Prophet Mohammad, and that all the revolutions in the Arab world against injustice were by Hashemites or their allies.

According to the author, Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali was one of the most prominent leaders of the Islamic state and was looking to the establishment of an Arab Empire that would revive the Arab Nation's glorious past. When he launched the Great Arab Revolt, Sharif Hussein was supported by many Arabs because they saw in this revolt a golden opportunity for reviving the great glory of the Arabs. He considers the Great Arab Revolt as the greatest event in Arab History after the rule of the Umayyad Caliphs and until today because this revolt had brought about an awakening in the Arab Nation that can be likened in its form and motives and objectives with the emergence of the Islamic Movement itself. The author says all Arabs are indebted to the Great Arab Revolt which tried to forge a united Arab Nation, a concept never before thought of by any other Arab leader. Had it not been for that revolt the Arabs probably would have still been under the yoke of Ottoman rule. He says that the Great Arab Revolt had great advantages far outweighing any disadvantages or shortcomings that might have appeared because the revolt aimed at sublime goals.

In this book, the reader finds part of King Hussein's book "My Career as King" because the author intended to point to the endeavours of the King's grandfather King Abdullah upon the establishment of the Emirate of Transjordan. The reader can easily

detect that the spirit which characterised the Great Arab Revolt under Al Hussein Ibn Ali was pursued and adopted by King Abdullah who had proposed the formation of the major state with Greater Syria that would include Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Palestine, forming with Iraq "The Fertile Crescent."

In his book, the author of "Star of Bani Hashem" refers to the establishment of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the subsequent assassination of King Abdullah at Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem by treacherous elements. This assassination, he said, prevented the establishment of a unity with Iraq, a plan the late king wanted to implement and was left to his grandson King Hussein to try to achieve.

The author also refers to the Iraqi-Jordanian Union and its constitution which draws its principles from the ideas of Al Hussein Ibn Ali.

"Star of Bani Hashem" readers can find a whole chapter on the life of King Hussein, his character and his ideas and policies. On the King's domestic policies the author says they are based on the concept of bolstering social, economic and cultural structures in Jordan. King Hussein's achievements have been characterised by democracy on which relations between ruler and subject are always based.

The culture and information sector has received due care and attention by the King and his governments and Jordan's information media are now totally committed to the principles and objectives of the Great Arab Revolt.

King Hussein, the author says, should be proud of his achievements in his country over the past 33 years.

On Jordan's policies with Arab countries the author says that King Hussein maintains a clear policy based on objectivity, free from sentiments and illusions.

The author has written a whole chapter about the King's endeavours in support of the Palestine cause and his sacrifices and those of his people and his call on all Arabs to unify their ranks in the face of the Zionist enemy that aims at expansion in the Arab regions.



Randa Habibi's

Happy Birthday

CERTAIN cultures in the world believe that the true age of a man is determined by the quality of his life. So a person of 40 calendar years may be considered a toddler of three, depending on how he lived.

On this scale, His Majesty King Hussein is celebrating something on the order of his 70th birthday today (even if he looks only half that age), because he has lived his life to the fullest.

Thirty-three years of rule in this volatile part of the world and a character full of daring and courage have ensured that King Hussein has lived life to an extent matched by few others.

In the eyes of the world, Jordan's King is the epitome of the "wise, moderate, and courageous man." For us Jordanians, King Hussein is our beloved leader, and the symbol of our well-being. His happiness reassures us, his sufferings grieve us, his loss is our loss, his achievements are our pride and joy.

He is a generous and forgiving man. Jordanians are proud to note that few other peoples in the Arab and Third World enjoy such humane and merciful leadership.

And King Hussein is a simple man. I remember as an example of his gentle humility the day he stopped to share bread and breakfast with a guard near his home.

To me, this is what makes our king different and so very special.

Happy Birthday Your Majesty.



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Jordan's economic miracle under King Hussein

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

IN 50 YEARS (1935-1985) the primitive and underdeveloped economy of Jordan grew by a factor of 200 in real terms. This is only a quantitative measurement. The development in the quality of life is far more impressive.

On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday today, we are tempted to look back at the near and far past, to evaluate the economic and social performance in the country and measure achievements during his reign.

At first, I thought of comparing the Jordanian economic and social indicators in 1985 with what they looked like in the Emirate of Transjordan in 1935, 50 years ago. After a few comparisons, I found out that such an exercise is not productive. The change was so deep and fast that the present could not be related to the past, except in a geographical and historical sense.

For example, I found out that the value of imports in 1935 did not exceed JD 0.7 million which multiplied last year by 1,500 fold. The national exports 50 years ago were around JD 0.2 million, which expanded last year by 1,300 times. The deficit in the balance of trade stood at JD 0.5 million and multiplied by 1,425 times in the 50 years.

The currency in circulation at that time was the Palestinian pound which is equivalent to the Sterling pound. Palestinian pounds in the East and West Banks of Jordan were replaced by Jordanian dinars in 1950. The whole cash wealth of the people (currency in circulation) at the conversion date was around JD 9 million (now over 550 million).

Even if we deflate the 50 years growth figures to exclude inflation, the growth in real terms would not be less than 200 times, or a compound annual rate of 11 per cent enduring for 50 years in a row.

This remarkable and long-term growth is unprecedented in any other country. That is why some observers like to refer to it as the "Jordanian legend" or the "economic miracle". It is true that Jordan started from a very modest base, but, nevertheless, it was able to break the vicious circle of backwardness, poverty, ignorance and poor health, and to embark on a quantitative and qualitative growth until modern Jordan emerged. It is hardly related to Transjordan of 50 years ago, except for geographic realities and historical memories.

It is more realistic and productive to analyse the changes that took place in the last decade or so. The population of Jordan grew from 1.7 million in 1974 (East Bank) to 2.6 million in 1984, a staggering 50 per cent net increase or 4.1 per cent per annum. This is certainly the highest percentage of national growth recorded anywhere in the world. On average the Jordanian woman gives birth to six children in her fertile life. The improvement in the standard of living and medical services lowered the mortality rate to less than one per cent, but maintained the extremely high birth rate.

Notwithstanding the population explosion, Jordan was able to steadily improve its standard of living, increase the individual's share of consumption, expand

education at all levels, improve medical services, and make them available to the masses of the people; Jordan now is top of all the Arab countries in its literacy rate and the medical facilities are rightly considered to be first in the Arab World in their level, quality and efficiency.

In general, private consumption increased on average by 22 per cent a year in current prices or more than 10 per cent in real terms. Taking into account the high population growth, we still find that the individual's share improved on average by 5.7 per cent a year, which put Jordan among the medium income category of countries, as classified by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Gross National Product (GNP) grew five fold in 10 years (1973-1983) at an annual average growth rate of 19.7 per cent in current prices. Excluding the effect of inflation of around 10.5 per cent per annum, this will leave real growth in 10 years at 125 per cent, or the equivalent of 8.3 per cent per annum.

Some aggressive governments in the Third World dared to put forward the slogan of doubling the Gross National Product in 10 years. They hoped to achieve at least half this ambitious target. Jordan more than doubled its production in one decade.

In 1967, the Jordanian economy received a devastating blow from the Middle East war. In the following three years, observers thought that the Jordanian economy would be crippled and disintegrate. Who could then dare to dream that 15 years later (in 1983) the agricultural products would be 54 per cent higher in real terms, mining and manufac-



His Majesty King Hussein visits one of the phosphate mines in Jordan

turing 300 per cent higher, electricity and water 379 per cent more, construction rising by 30 per cent, wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels reaching 130 per cent increase, transport and communication 186 per cent more, financing and real estate services 144 per cent more, government services 61 per cent more, other services 164 per cent more.

All in all, the gross domestic product at factor cost became 141 per cent higher, even after allowing for an inflation rate of 296.3 per cent during this period.

Economic planning

Jordan adopted economic and social planning as a tool to manage the economy at the macro level. The main objectives of developmental planning during the last decade have been the achievement of a high overall growth rate in the gross domestic product, to reduce the external deficit through export growth, to enhance the share of domestic revenue in the budget, and to create new employment opportunities as well as to improve the fair distribution of the benefits of development among regions and classes.

The current five-year development plan 1981-1985 retains these objectives, and seeks to consolidate the progress made towards their realisation during the 1973-1975 Three-year Development Plan, and the 1976-1980 Five-Year Development Plan.

Projects included in the current plan have a total investment ex-

penditure of JD 3.3 billion, or more than three times the amount under the 1976-1980 plan. It is believed that at least two-thirds of these investments are actually implemented, despite the shortage of funds following the economic slowdown in the area as a whole.

Internal, external factors

These outstanding economic and social achievements were the result of internal and external factors. On the internal front, the contributing factors were the productivity and energy of the Jordanian people, and the efficient management of the national economy by the state and its application of appropriate development policies whilst the external front, the availability of funds, thanks to the Arab financial support and the extensive remittances of our expatriates, helped the economy. His Majesty's dynamism spurred all these factors and inspired excellence.

We should be proud of our economic and social success story achieved over in the past 10 years. This should not, however, distract our attention from the formidable challenges which we face during the next 10 years.

On the one hand, the extremely high growth could not and cannot go on indefinitely. It had to level off and it did. The larger the size of the economy the more difficult it becomes to achieve higher percentages of growth. In other words, the rates of growth witnessed in the past decade cannot possibly be duplicated in the

coming decade, even if the favourable internal and external circumstances continue to prevail.

On the other hand, we have new and less-favourable circumstances: Arab financial aid retreated to half the level of 1981; expatriates remittances stagnated and may retreat; Jordanian exports are faced with tough external markets due to higher cost of production; entrants to the labour market are increasing at six per cent a year, which calls for the creation of some 30,000 new job opportunities to keep unemployment at bay and the current economic recession makes meeting such demands difficult indeed.

These unfavourable circumstances caused the high growth rates to decline, but they did not cause a retreat. The evidence is that the present crisis is containable and not without positive sides. It may provide the opportunity to reconsider many adversities and to allow the correction of imbalances which took place during the stage of rapid growth and easy funds. Overcoming the problematic issues will no doubt pave the way for embarking on a new stage of slower, but healthier, growth on a sound economic and financial basis.

Higher income and production are of course instrumental in improving the quality of life in any country, but they are by no means exclusive factors. Other relevant aspects are culture, a reasonable cost of living, political stability, political freedom and civil rights, soundness of the national economy, reasonable tax rates, the availability of recreation facilities, health care and personal safety, the availability of vital services and infrastructure, and a good environment.

Jordan scores high in all these aspects and it is the envy of many Third World countries. There is no doubt that there is still room for improvement, but the achievements have been incredible.

On His Majesty's 50th birthday, we look back with pride and satisfaction at past achievements to reinforce our self confidence to face future hurdles.

The bright past is our stepping-stone to an even brighter future. The past decade of run-away growth is the starting point for consolidation and maturity. We look forward to a sound, dynamic economy and a better life.



King Hussein and the late King Faisal of Iraq visit the Jordan Cement Factories Company in August 1953.



His Majesty King Hussein salutes the guard of honour at the opening ceremony of the Jordan Cement

Factories Co. Ltd. in Fuhels in 1953 (Photos on this page are courtesy of Mr. Samir Ghawib)

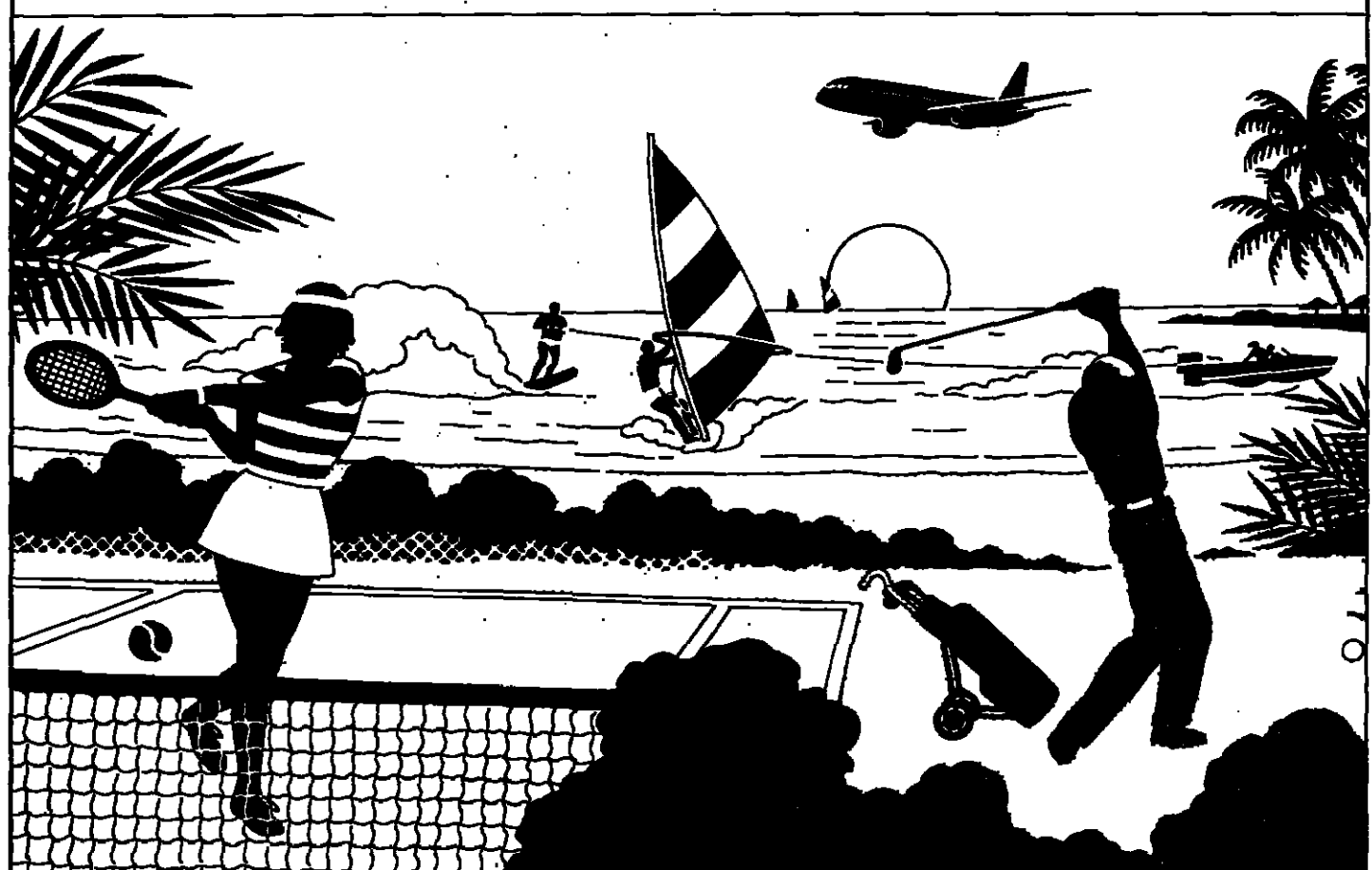


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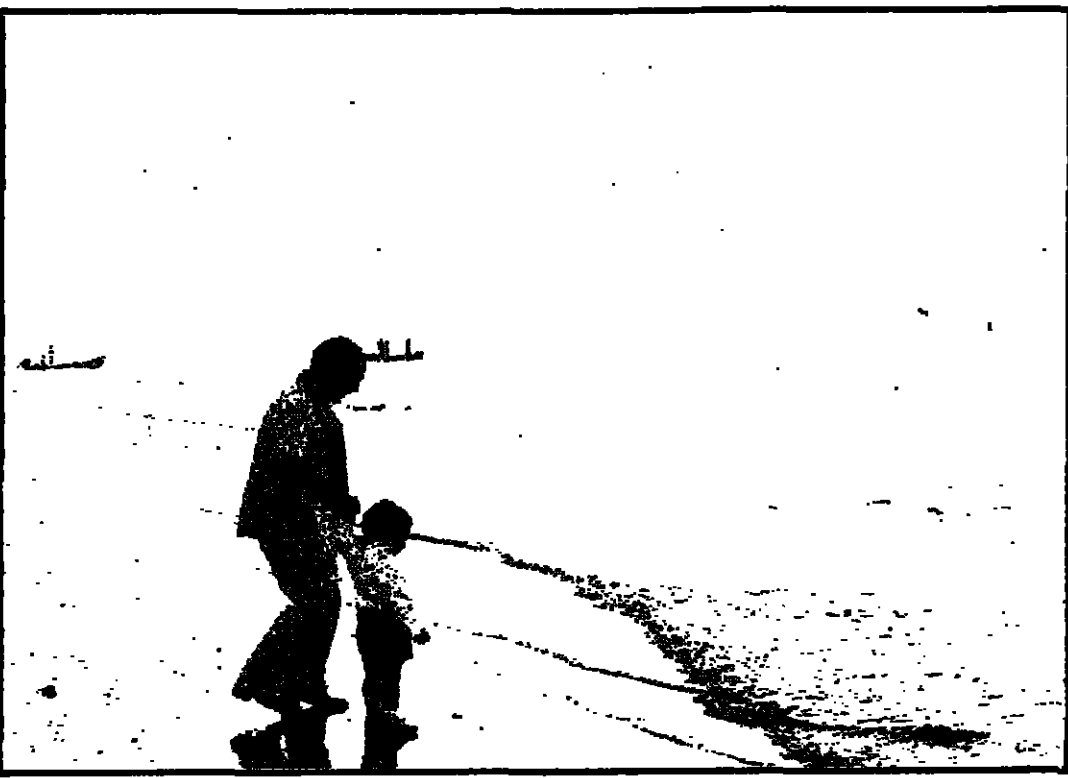
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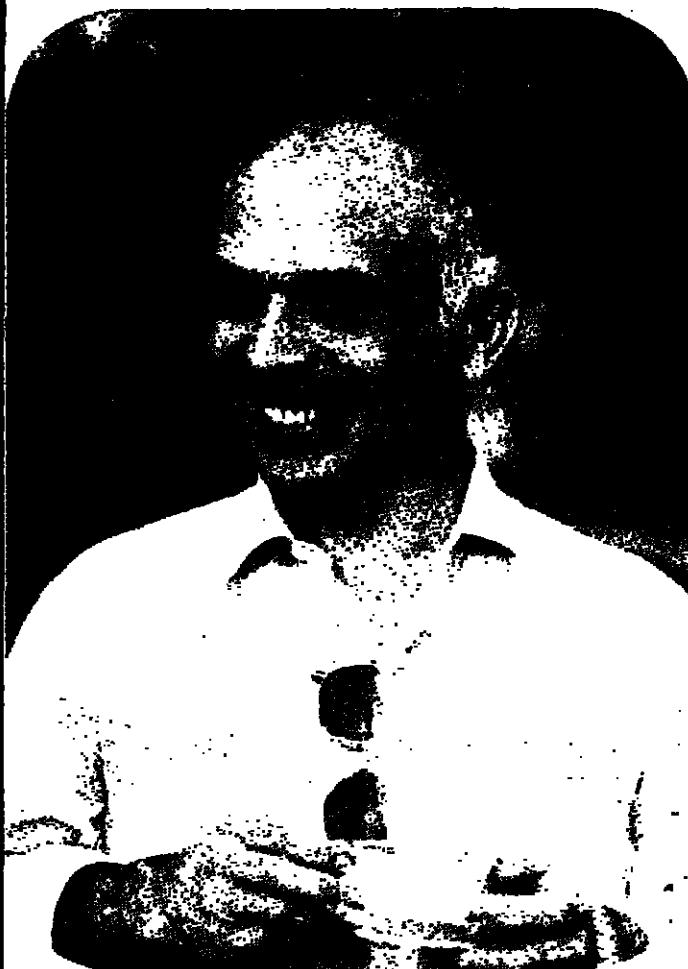
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KING AND COUNTRY celebrates the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein. Since 1953, when at the age of 18 he formally ascended to the throne, his life has been dedicated to his country, and this book shows, through the medium of the photographer's art, how great are his achievements. During his reign Jordan has developed to an unprecedented degree, and her progress at home and her stature abroad are due to none other than the King himself, whose wisdom and energy have made her what she is today. Zohrab Markarian, who is in a unique position to record the life of the King and the nature of the Kingdom, has compiled this book as a tribute to him, and a memento for his people. His photographs depict the formal occasions and the affairs of state, and the great places. But they show too the private moments, a simple man at home with his family and at one with his people, in truth a king who IS his country.



Photo by Ron Francis

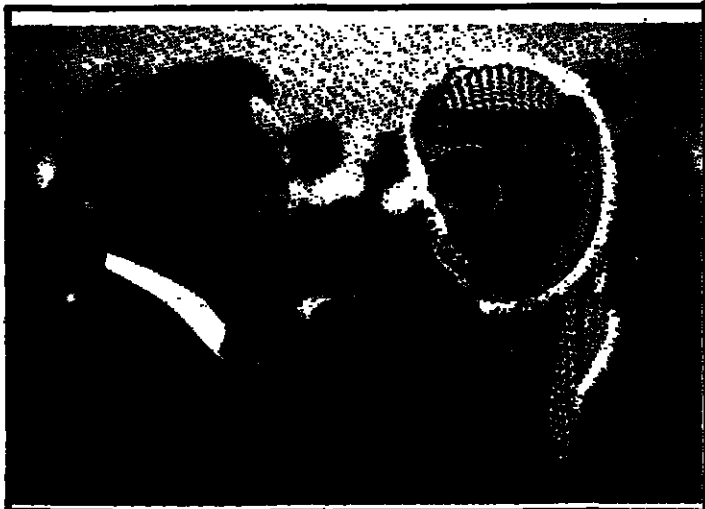


Photo by Fathi



Photo by Ron Francis

The King is 50 today

(Continued from page 1)

The cables expressed their backing for the King's national stands and his constant efforts to confront the Israeli enemy, regain Arab rights and establish peace based on justice.

They also expressed pride in the King's stands and appreciation for the King's achievements that would benefit his people in all fields.

The cables wished the King happiness and further success in the leadership of his people.

The cables came from Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, the Speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Afef Al Fayez respectively, Armed Forces Commander in Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, Islamic Chief Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhanna, presidents of trade unions, heads of religious denominations

and representatives of social and economic organisations in Jordan.

The following were some of the festivities planned to mark the King's birthday:

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) announced that it will implement a number of new projects on the occasion. The society said it will establish wild life reserve at Mujib in southern Jordan on a 212,000-dunam land with the purpose of preserving wildlife there.

The cabinet had earlier decided to assign a piece of land at Mujib for the project.

According to Mr. Aul Musasher, the RSCN's board chairman, the project will be carried out to help protect plants and animals and helping to increase their strains and breeds. The region at Mujib has rare types of plants and animals which should be preserved and protected, Mr. Musasher added. The site of the project will

be 24 kilometres south of the Dead Sea and is 400 to 800 metres above sea level.

Al Mujib Wild Life Sanctuary will be the third in Jordan after those at Shomari and Azraq.

A scout camp was held in Madaba on the occasion of the King's birthday. In Ajloun a camp for students of Yarmouk University was organised.

The Ministry of Communications announced that it will put into circulation a new set of stamps.

The Cabinet, in its meeting on Wednesday, decided to supply the homes of Bani Hamdeh bedouin tribes in the Madaba region with running water.

The JD 70,000 project will be covered by the treasury. A statement following the Cabinet meeting said at least 2,000 homes will be connected with the main network laid earlier in the region. The decision was taken, it said, in view

of the difficult living conditions of the tribe and on the occasion of the King's birthday.

The Jordanian National Red Crescent Society distributed gifts and clothings to orphan children in Amman and in Jweideh.

The Jerash archaeological office announced that visitors to the Greco-Roman city of Jerash and attending the light and sound show will be admitted free of charge on Thursday. Office director 'Adeh Naghawji said that the light and sound show, which starts at 7:00 p.m., includes a narration of the ancient eras and past civilisations witnessed by the ancient city.

In Taflet, south Jordan, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud will attend a celebration to be held on Sunday to mark the

King's birthday. The celebrations will include a variety show at Jashleh, a horse race in the town and the opening of a housing project and a girls school in the region.

In Aqaba, celebrations were held at the Aqaba Fortress and attended by Ma'an Governor 'Eid Jatareah and leading personalities in the Ma'an and Aqaba regions. The celebrations were organised by the local tourist and travel agencies.

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) will today link the Jweirah town in Aqaba with the national transmission grid. The JEA's Aqaba district manager said that the JD 150,000 project will benefit 6,000 people adding that the implementation of the project will rid the town of frequent power failures due to its dependence on

old diesel-run generators. The JEA will also electrify the Ras-hideych village at the Wadi Rum junction in Aqaba as part of its electrification projects to give 500 people there the opportunity to benefit from electricity.

The television station located in Ras Al Naqab in Ma'an will also be electrified by JEA on this occasion, thus enabling the area's inhabitants to see television programmes for the first time.

The JEA on Wednesday awarded a JD 1.5 million tender to a local firm for lighting Amman's streets. The roads included in the lighting project are the Queen Alia International Airport Road starting from the 7th and 8th Circles, the Amman-Zarqa road starting from the Sports City Crossroad, the University Road from the

Sports City Crossroad and from Swelleh to the Eighth Circle.

University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali patronised the university's celebrations on the occasion of the King's birthday. Dr. Majali inaugurated eight exhibitions organised by the university's various faculties.

Dr. Majali also inaugurated a new student activities complex which is part of the student activities sponsored by the dean of Student Affairs Department.

The Ministry of Education is organising marches through the streets of Amman on Thursday.

Mr. Taiseer Arafat, director of the ministry's activities, said that the main procession will start from three different parts of the city and will head for the Sports City where the main celebration will be held at

the stadium under royal patronage.

The celebration will be addressed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali. Nearly 4,000 scouts and girl guides will take part.

There will also be a flower procession in which schoolgirls from Amman and Irbid regions will take part.

According to Mr. Arafat the programme includes folklore dances and performances by the Armed Forces and musical bands.

Mu'ta University will hold a book exhibition which will be opened on Thursday by University President Ali Mahafza. University students will make visits to a number of institutions and the port at Aqaba.

Jordan's moves for peace in the Middle East

(Continued from page 5)

which took into consideration all previous Arab moves, the PLO and Jordan reached an agreement on Feb. 11, 1985. An agreement one that endorsed and was committed to principles of peace that have been supported by the Arabs and which Jordan feels committed to.

These are:

— Peace has to be just and comprehensive, which means no unilateral solution;

— All parties to the conflict, including the PLO, should be involved in the peace negotiations. Parties to the conflict of course include Syria;

— Jordan will not act as a substitute for the Palestinians or the PLO;

— Negotiations should take place at an international conference to be attended by all U.N. Security Council permanent members;

— The Palestinian people should be able to exercise their right to self-determination within a confederal state between Jordan and Palestine;

— Jordan and Palestine should participate in the proposed international conference in a joint delegation in expression of their desire to forge their projected confederation;

— Negotiations should take place on the basis of U.N. resolutions dealing with the Palestine problem, including the Security Council resolutions; and

— All aspects of the Palestine problem should be settled.

These agreements have drawn response from international circles and most of them positive. Because of this, the accord has entered the circle of political moves.

But in order to ensure that this accord would not be transformed into a mere stand, Jordan and the PLO opened a dialogue with Arab countries and with the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. Joint delegations made visits to Peking and Paris and a number of European capitals with the aim of enlisting support for this joint move and for eventually convening an international peace conference.

We also opened a dialogue with the United States and King Hussein was able, in his visit to the United States last month, to develop the American stand and to make Washington to accept the idea of the international conference with the participation of the PLO. But we remained in disagreement with Washington over a number of matters with regard to the task to be achieved by this conference and the stage where the PLO would participate in it.

Despite that we have not closed the dialogue with the U.S. and which still exists until now and which is designed to overcome difficulties and make a change in the American stand.

The greatest mission we shouldered was to include the PLO in the conference because the U.N. Security Council resolutions, on whose bases such conference will be convened, stipulate that only countries should be involved in the conference. In order to succeed in our endeavours we had to qualify the PLO and make it an eligible partner in the peace process.

For this we have suggested specific steps to be taken so that the U.S. can recognise the PLO and this includes a meeting between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and U.S. officials.

As we were on the way to achieve success and progress, however slow it looked, we found ourselves facing a cycle of terrorist actions and counter actions. First there was a Larnaca affair followed by the raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis; then the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship and the interception of the Egypt-

tian airliner and finally the assassination of Alex Odeh in Los Angeles.

This diabolic cycle has left its negative effect on our efforts as we were about to make an improvement in the situation and move towards the meeting between the joint delegation and British officials in London, we were faced by an attitude by a member of the PLO who aborted the move.

The PLO chairman visited us and we reviewed together the present situation in the light of the events, and their positive or negative results. We had an objective assessment of the situation and asked Yasser Arafat to halt all acts of violence outside the occupied Arab territories because they damage the PLO's reputation and contravene with our efforts to qualify the PLO as a partner for peace.

We emphasised our stand and the need for differentiating between acts of terrorism outside the occupied Arab territories and resistance activity inside occupied Palestine because such resistance activity is a lawful right of the Palestinian people and a natural thing that the whole world can accept.

In the past week, Arafat announced in Cairo his denunciation of acts of terrorism, regardless of its source whether a state, a group or an individual, and pledged to halt all acts of violence outside the occupied Arab lands. In our view this declaration is useful and will help to improve our position.

At present, we are still holding dialogue with a number of countries including the United States and the Soviet Union whose

stand is quite identical in general with the Arab stand. The whole world is following our moves with interest. What is more important is that the idea of an international conference has revived King Hussein's efforts. These efforts have been receiving increasing support from various world capitals and there are encouraging signs in this respect.

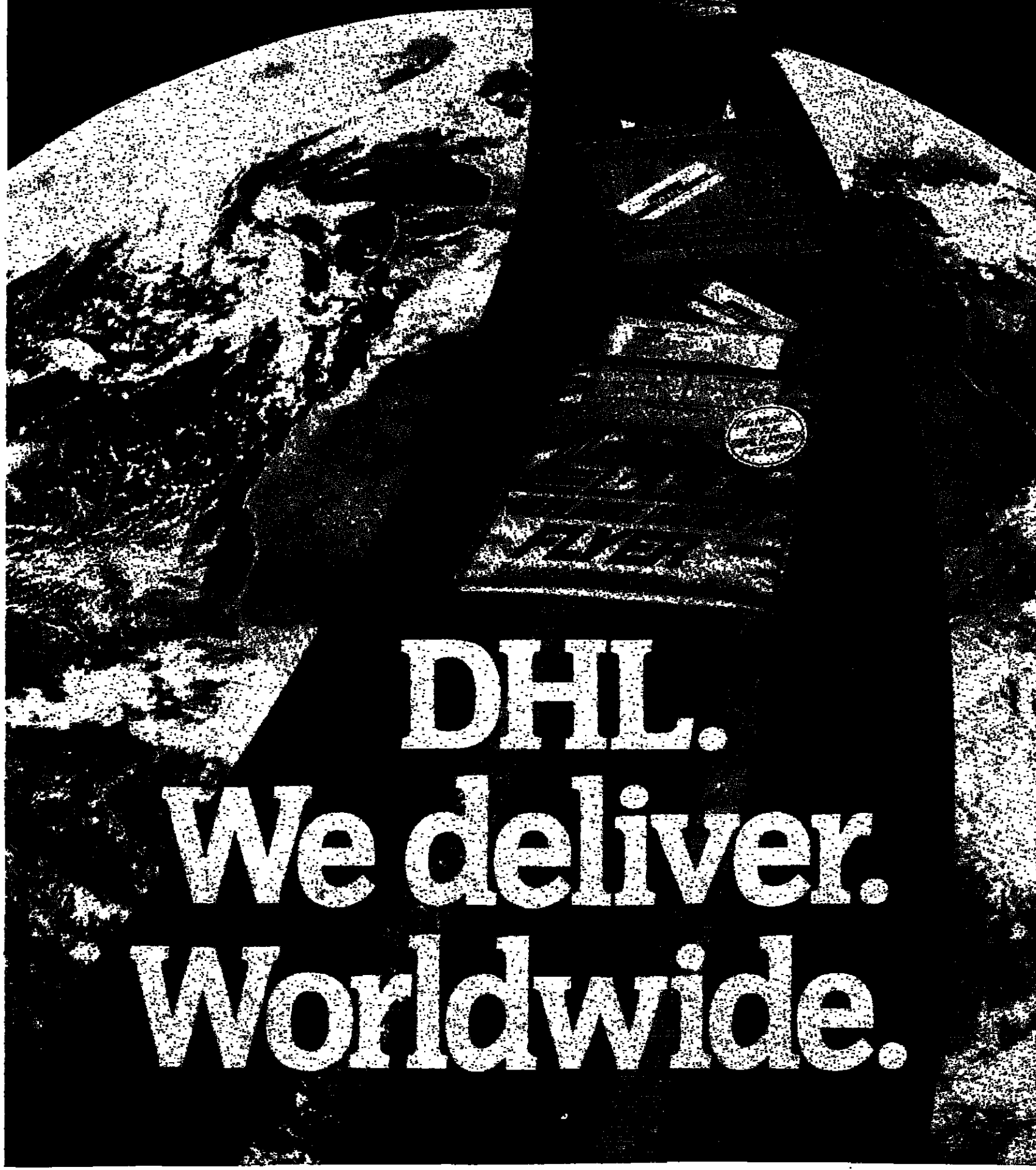
We now are concentrating our efforts on the U.S. stand on which we rely for the sake of making changes in the Israeli stand. However, I do not belittle the efforts needed to secure a better Soviet support for our moves. The two superpowers have their own calculations which do not agree with ours. As we conduct our dialogue with foreign nations we at the same time conduct a dialogue with the Syrian officials within the framework of ending Arab differences.

No doubt the dialogue with Syria is an extremely important development tantamount to the return of our relations with Egypt and the Jordan-PLO accord of Feb. 11. This is because Syria is a basic party to the conflict.

Developing our political move by involving Syria in it as a basic partner will certainly contribute to the process of achieving an integration between the political stand and the political move in our quest to liberate the occupied Arab territories and regain the rights of the Palestinian people and to establish a just and durable peace.

Mr. Abu Odeh, Jordan's minister of court, delivered the above lecture to the Petra Lions Club of Amman earlier this week.

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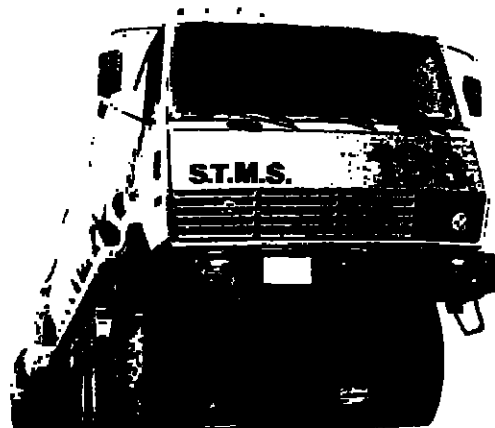
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Amman through the ages: A modern city with glorious past

By Abdul Ra'ouf
Al Rawabdeh
Mayor of Amman

PEOPLE HAVE inhabited Amman for more than 6,000 years. The Hyksos brought the rudiments of Egyptian civilisations to Amman and the city was inhabited afterwards by the Amorites who gave the city its name. The Amorites built a fortress, known as the Citadel, on a hill of the city overlooking a valley and retained their independence until the Assyrians arrived in the Eighth Century B.C., followed by the Babylonians who completely devastated the city on their march to Jerusalem.

Amman fell under the rule of the Greeks in the Fourth Century B.C., followed by the Ptolemies in 284 B.C. The Ptolemies built a new city on the site of the ancient one and called it Philadelphia. Under the Seleucids, several of the Decapolis cities were established in Jordan, one of which was Amman.

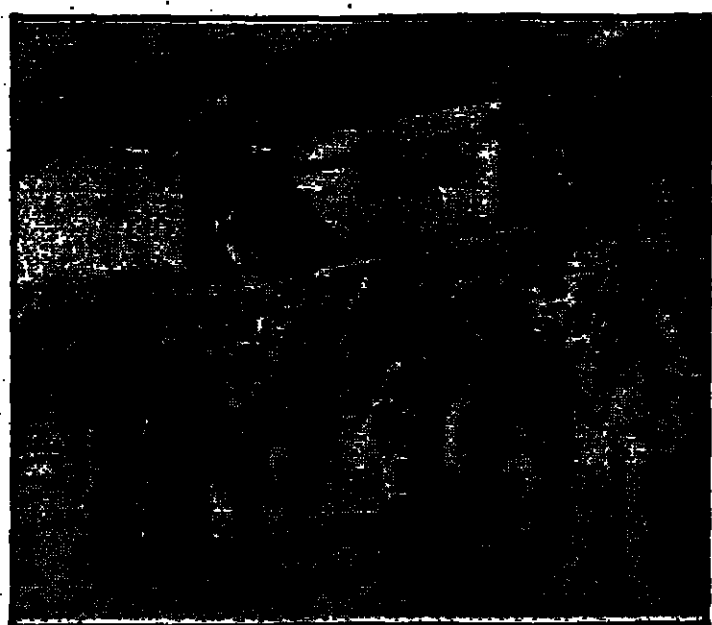
Under the Romans, the city of Philadelphia (Amman) became prosperous and witnessed more progress under the Byzantines in later eras. The city enjoyed autonomous rule and had its own currency and armed forces.

Amman came under Islamic rule during the reign of Yazid Ibn Abi Sufian, the Muslim caliph's strongman in this part of the world, in the year 636 A.D. Since then, Amman became a base for the Umayyads, who ruled the Islamic world and who built desert castles in Jordan's eastern and southern regions. The present Grand Mosque in downtown Amman was built on the site of an ancient Umayyad one.

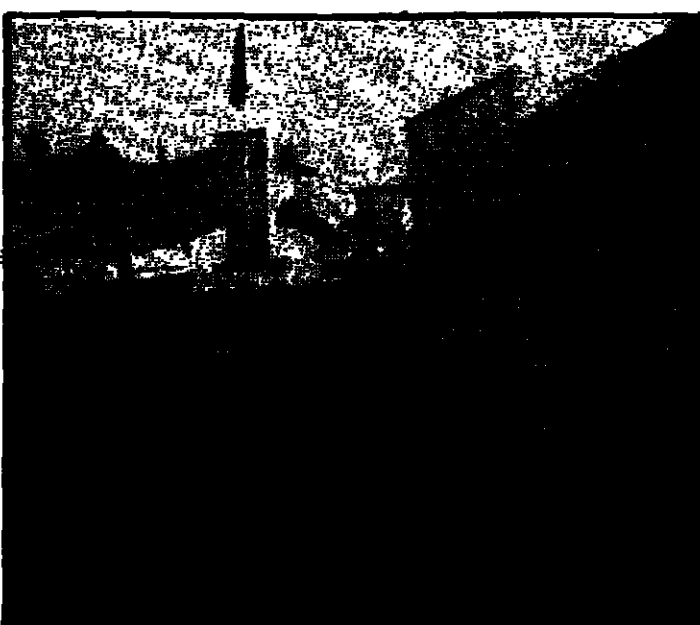
Amman became prosperous later because it lay along the trade route between Damascus, the seat of the Umayyads, and Arabia and began to receive caravans from India and China going west to Egypt or north to Damascus. Amman was also a resting place for Muslim pilgrims going to Mecca and Medina.

Amman, like all other towns in Bilad Al Shaam (Greater Syria), suffered during the wars between the Umayyads and the Abbasids who later established their seat in Baghdad. The city declined further when it was pillaged by the Tartars and devastated by earthquakes which caused it to shrink to the size of a village whose inhabitants soon deserted it.

Amman remained deserted for



This photograph shows the Vocational Training School on King Hussein Street in 1942. The school was removed in the late 1940s. Today there are the Palace of Justice, the laboratories of the Ministry of Health and the Central Bank (below).



The first Prime Ministry building in Amman in the early 1920s. The building also included the office of the Chief Justice and the Minister of Justice. Below is the photograph of the Prime Ministry today.



A general view of the Roman Theatre in the centre of Amman in 1920. Below is a photograph of the same area today.



expand and to develop further. In 1946, the British mandate in Transjordan came to an end and the country signed a treaty with Britain which was followed by the Transjordan Declaration of Independence under a constitutional monarchy. The first legislative council was established in May 1946 and the deputies met and proclaimed Prince Abdullah as King.

In 1948, Jordan took part in the Arab-Israeli War and its armed forces were able to preserve part of Palestine and part of the Holy City of Jerusalem. The Arab part of Palestine came to be called the West Bank when the unity between the territory and Transjordan was forged in 1948. In 1950, the first parliamentary elections were held simultaneously in both banks and the ensuing parliament unanimously endorsed the merger into a united constitutional country under King Abdullah.

Nearly 100,000 Palestinian refugees covered on Amman after the 1948 war with Israel and the city began to swell and expand. Jordan welcomed the refugees and the people of Amman, together with the newcomers, embarked on fruitful cooperation, building the country, facing the same challenges and striving to achieve the same goals. Since then, Amman became a major centre for trade and industry.

Under King Hussein, Jordan flourished and gradually, and through the joint efforts of the Palestinians and the Jordanians, Amman began to achieve the prosperity and progress which has achieved today.

The pictures that appear on this page are taken from a book entitled "Amman Yesterday and Today," written by retired Captain Arslan Ramadan Bakig.

Mr. Ramadan's book "Amman Yesterday and Today" is a descriptive account of Amman through pictures — of historical Amman and pictures of modern Amman.

Printed in 1983, the book contains a coloured display of photographs of Amman's development. Most of the photographs were taken by the author over a period of two years and are contrasted with old black and white photographs of Amman.

Mr. Ramadan, a Circassian, was born in Amman in 1934.

four long centuries until 1878 when the Circassians, arriving from the eastern regions of Russia, settled near the Citadel and established a district called Shabab. Later, many Circassian families converged on Jordan and inhabited the Amman area, first living in caves and around the Roman Theatre. They gradually began to exploit the spring water for agriculture and later established trade.

The Ottomans, who ruled the region for 400 years, built a railway to Hijaz (Saudi Arabia). The line passed through Amman in 1903 and Ma'an in 1904, with the train commuting between the two stations and carrying goods between Amman and Damascus. This was a great development for

Amman which began to have some advantages over Salt, which had been considered the largest town in Transjordan under the Ottomans. Soon, many more people started inhabiting Amman and they began to develop the city.

The first municipal council in Amman was established in 1909 and houses began to appear on both sides of the stream that passes through the heart of the old city. In the first two decades of the present century, the city was inhabited by no more than 2,000 people, but commercial activity later began to draw people from Salt and Madaba and from Damascus, Nabulus and Jerusalem. The original dwellers, the Circassians, began to mingle with the newcomers and together they built the

city and gradually enlarged it. At the end of the First World War and the fall of the Ottoman Empire, the Emirate of Transjordan was established, forming part of the Arab state based in Syria and ruled by King Faisal Ibn Al Hussein. Amman then became a district governorate under the administrative rule of Balqa governorate with the governor's seat in Salt.

With the downfall of the Arab state in Syria and after the battle of Maysaloon in 1920 and the start of the French mandate in Syria and Lebanon, Transjordan came under British rule, but without British army bases, unlike the case of Palestine.

At that time, Amman had become an important commercial centre and also meeting place for patriots, national leaders and

those pledging to maintain the struggle against the colonial powers. Its people met together and decided to invite Prince Abdullah to come to the city and establish his seat. The Prince responded and arrived in Amman in 1921. He immediately launched negotiations with the British that led to the establishment of a national state in Transjordan under his rule. The British extended financial help to Prince Abdullah and his state through a high commissioner who resided in Amman; a sort of compromise between the Arabs and the British.

Prince Abdullah established his seat in Amman and in 1921 he formed the first cabinet. This cabinet included Arabs from neighbouring states with only one

minister from Transjordan as Prince Abdullah still hoped to re-establish unity with Syria. The Prince started opening government departments and establishing a national army which he considered as an extension of the Great Arab Revolt's army. The army included soldiers from Iraq, Syria, and Palestine who had earlier served in the army of the Great Arab Revolt under King Faisal.

Britain officially recognised Transjordan in 1923 and, under the guidance of Prince Abdullah, the country began to progress. During the Second World War, Transjordan became one of the most important communications centres for the allies and this was a new opportunity for Amman to

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With heartiest congratulation and best wishes to His Majesty King Hussein on occasion of his 50th birthday



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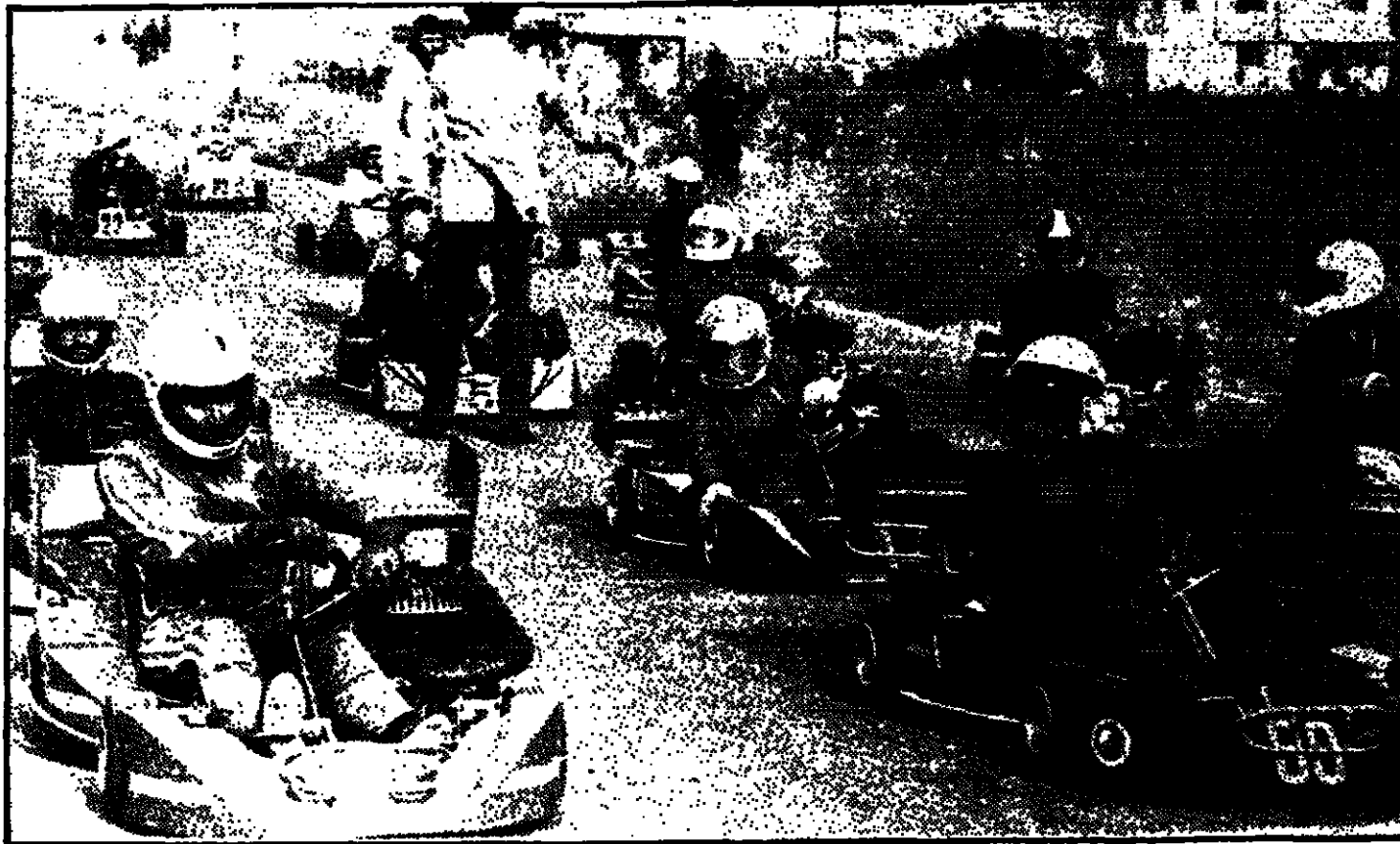


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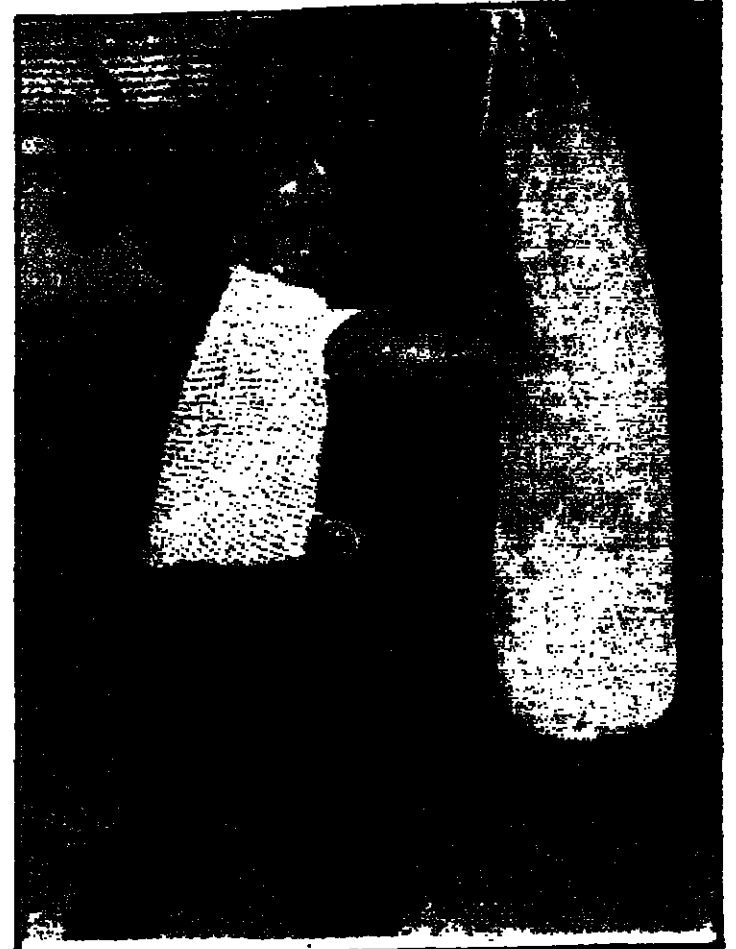
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Royal father and daughter at play



On the wheels...



The boxer



The cricketer

Jordan's first sportsman

By Mune'm Fakhoury

His Majesty King Hussein, long a sportsman himself, has been always a keen supporter of youth and sports activities in Jordan. He has always advocated sports as an integral part in the life of Jordanian youth.

"The Jordanian Youth are the nuclei for the future, they are the seed for progress and renaissance," he once said. "The intellectual and physical care of the young is one of the state's duties for the future."

The first of the King's government endeavours in this respect was the establishment in 1966 of the Jordan Youth Organisation. This organisation, which until recently coordinated the activities of all sports federations, runs Al Hussein Sports City (built in 1964) and numerous youth centres at cities and towns all over the country.

Within the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, sports colleges work tirelessly to graduate sports leaders. Both house a sports complex that also serves the

needs of local communities for sports activities.

The Jordanian Armed Forces constitute the largest school for sports in the country.

In addition to its diverse sports activities, the Army was the first to introduce large scale martial arts training. The martial arts were first popularised in Jordan by King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The growing variety and complexity of sports activities in the last 20 years prompted the establishment of a separate Youth

Ministry in 1985.

Jordan's level of achievement in youth and sports fields is largely owed to the example and continued efforts of His Majesty the King.

The King is a very active sportsman. As a young man he was known for his love of sports cars. He is a pilot who enjoys testing himself in the latest model of fighter aircraft. He holds a black belt in Judo, goes motorcycling, plays cricket, and recently took up snow skiing.



Young Hussein on the pistol range at Sandhurst



Skiing on the Alps



The soccer player

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On His Majesty's 50th Birthday

We congratulate on official opening of Amman Central-III Digital Electronic Telephone Exchange. We are very proud that we have already installed Electronic Public Telephone Exchanges in Amman area, Irbid, Karak and Aqaba.

We are resolved that we should make further contribution to develop Jordan's telecommunications network under full cooperation with Telecommunications Corporation.

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Syria to battle Iraq for berth in World Cup finals

DAMASCUS (R) — Political foes Syria and Iraq meet here on Friday in the first of two soccer matches for a place in next year's World Cup finals in Mexico.

The two Arab countries, ruled by rival factions of the Ba'ath party and at odds over several Middle East issues, will each be looking for a political as well as competitive victory in what are expected to be highly-charged games.

Iraq, generally favoured by pundits in the region to reach Mexico, beat Syria 2-0 at their last meeting in the Pan-Arab Games in Morocco in August, and went on to become Arab champions. Iraq also won five previous games against Syria.

Syrian sports officials said "severe" security measures had been taken to protect the teams for Friday's match.

"Syria is resolved to prevent any disorder or violence and is very keen to make the game a success," one official said.

In Baghdad, sports officials said they had requested and received a written guarantee from Syria that the safety of the Iraqi team and its accompanying delegation would be assured.

Syrian officials said the guarantee was delivered to the president of the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA), Joao Havelange, who was expected to watch Friday's match.

FIFA originally scheduled the first game for Taif, Saudi Arabia, and the second in Damascus. But Iraq protested that Damascus would give Syria a home advantage for the crucial second match on November 29.

Iraq has played its home ties in World Cup qualifiers on neutral grounds because of its war with Iran.

The head of the Syrian Sports

Federation, Samih Moudallal, told the Syrian team: "millions, with thirsty hearts, are looking to your victory over the Iraqi team."

President Hafez Al Assad has promised each man in the Syrian team, which has been training for two weeks in a closed stadium here, a house if they reach Mexico.

The chairman of Iraq's soccer federation, Uday Hussein, the eldest son of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, told the national sports daily Al Baath Al Ri'adh in a statement: "Iraq will teach the Syrians a lesson, they will never forget."

Iraq, which normally trains at home on grass, has used a pitch in Jordan with an artificial surface similar to the one at the Abbasiyyin Stadium in Damascus, where Friday's game will be played.

Iraq's passage to win the Asian Group One final against the United Arab Emirates was far from smooth, despite intensive preparations.

Borg takes McEnroe to three sets

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (R) — A surprised John McEnroe was taken to three sets before beating retired superstar Bjorn Borg in the first of a six-match series of exhibition games Wednesday.

After his 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 victory McEnroe said of Borg: "People still want to see what he can offer. I wanted to see what he can offer. He still can play tennis, there is no question about that."

McEnroe, 26, and Borg, 29, played one another 14 times from 1978 to 1981, with each man winning seven times.

Many of those were cherished classics, including the 1980 Wimbledon final which Borg won in five sets, and the U.S. Open final later that summer which McEnroe won in five sets.

Kuwait backs out as host, fined \$15,000

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia has agreed to stage the Asian Basketball Championships next month because Kuwait reversed its earlier commitment as host. Asian Basketball Congress (ABC) Secretary-General Lum Mun Chak said Wednesday.

Kuwait was fined \$15,000 for its decision not stage the December 28 to January 5 championships. It reversed an earlier commitment, citing political tension in the region. Gulf war combatants Iran and Iraq are participants.

Nations playing are: China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan and Thailand.

The last championship was in Hong Kong in 1983.

onger than in 1982 despite losing six players, including top striker Grzegorz Lato.

Newspapers seem to share his opinion although they point out there are too few class strikers at his disposal.

Piechniczek, however, is confident that with Zbigniew Boniek, Poland's top player, and his recent discovery Dariusz Dziekanowski, the team would carry strike power.

Piechniczek is happiest of all with his midfield and feels there are no problems with the defence which enjoys the sure hands of veteran goalkeeper Jozef Mlynarczyk behind it.

Mexican soccer seeking boost

MEXICO CITY (R) — Mexico, eager to regain favour with their fans after a dismal Middle East and African tour last month, meet Argentina twice within four days in World Cup friendly soccer matches which will prove a severe test of strength for the cup hosts.

Mexico, who stage the finals next year, managed only one win from six games against poor-quality opposition and will be striving for credibility as serious cup contenders when they meet the

Argentines in Los Angeles on Thursday and in the Mexican city of Puebla on Sunday.

The Mexicans will be handicapped by the absence of striker Hugo Sanchez, who has commitments with his Spanish club Real Madrid.

By contrast Argentina, the 1978 world champions, will have the services of the immensely-talented Diego Maradona and will be favoured to beat Mexico.

Poles excel in World Cup play

By Michal Broniatowski
Rzeszow

WARSAW — Unfashionable Poland are through to their fourth World Cup soccer finals in a row thanks to a mixture of patriotism and cash.

Despite persistent lack of success at club level in Europe, Poland have finished third in two of the last three World Cups and performed with credit in the other.

Poland are 19th in the UEFA ranking which classifies countries according to their performance in all three European Cup club competitions over the last five years.

Jerzy Domanski, vice-president of the country's soccer federation, explained the phenomenon by the patriotism which inspires the players whenever they wear a shirt with the Polish white eagle, the national emblem, on the chest.

He told Reuters that Polish trainers managed to "develop the ability to make the team play at its best in the most important international matches." Poles seemed to mobilise themselves while competing with a theoretically stronger rival.

Domanski admitted that money had also played a role. The bonuses in the World Cup qualifying

series were much higher than what the clubs pay any of their players.

He said: "Despite the economic crisis, we are covered financially. Whatever the coach plans to do there will be money for that."

The crisis also means that the communist authorities are anxious for spectacular sports success which takes people's minds off the difficulties of the daily life.

To help coach Antoni Piechniczek in his vital preparations the domestic season will end in May, two months earlier than normal.

"One can say that almost everything in Polish soccer is now subordinated to the needs of the national team," Piechniczek told Reuters.

Piechniczek doubted West European clubs would agree to such a rescheduling and said such devotion of energy to the national cause was only possible under a socialist state, as in Poland.

"The system lets me coach this team almost on the basis of a club side," he said, explaining that he spends about 80 days each year with the national squad in camps and on tours.

Piechniczek, who took over the national team five years ago, is confident his present side is str-

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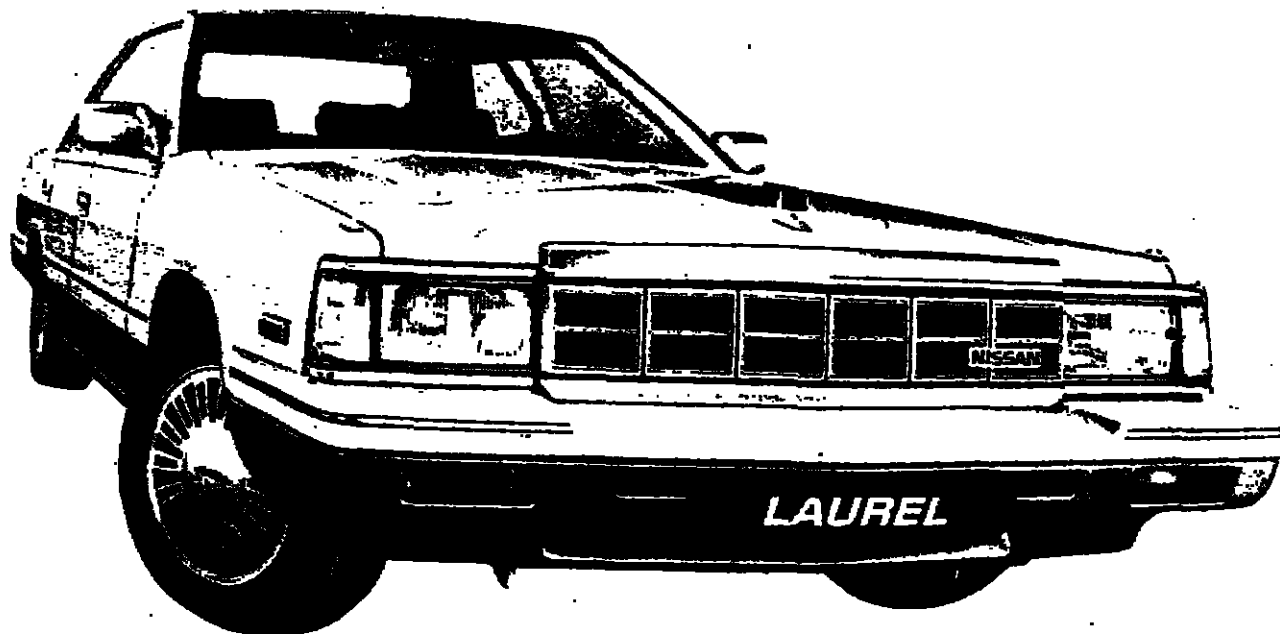


Our heartiest greetings to His Majesty King Hussein, the government and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the jubilant occasion of His Majesty's 50th birthday, and our best wishes for the continued good health, happiness and prosperity of His Majesty and the Royal Family.

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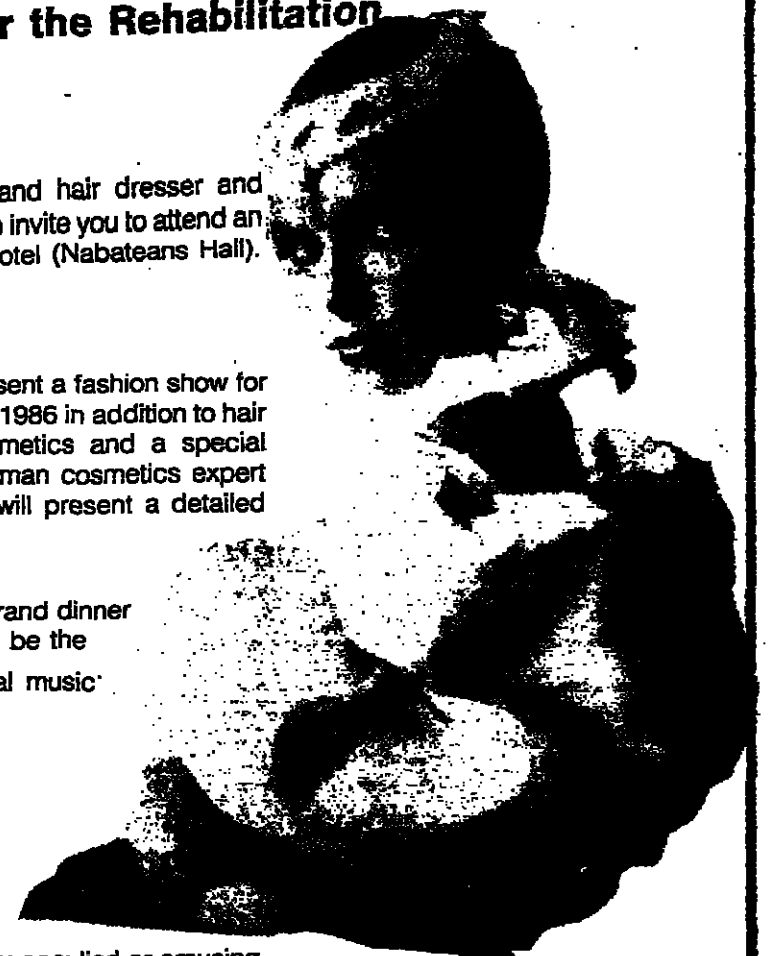
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Together with the show, guests will be entertained to a grand dinner and will be presented with valuable gifts. There will also be the drawing of a lottery to the tunes of western and oriental music and dancing.

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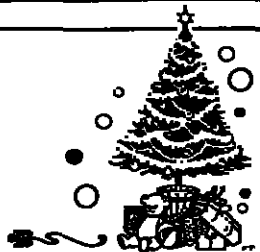
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Reagan: Summit aimed at dispelling mistrust

GENEVA (R) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan says he hopes his summit next week with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will dispel suspicion and mistrust, but doubts a concrete agreement will emerge.

"A great measure of success would be if we came away" with a decision to meet again to discuss common problems, he said in a live television interview with West European reporters Tuesday night. The summit is next Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mr. Reagan, 74, said that he hoped the summit would result in agreement "to exist in the world and compete peacefully" but held out little hope of anything more concrete.

The president said the summit agenda cover four subjects: Arms control, regional disputes, bilateral issues and human rights.

But he added: "I should think that what we should be dealing with at the summit is ... the eli-

mination of suspicion and mistrust."

Mr. Reagan emphasised his commitment to the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), or "star wars," research programme which he announced in March 1983.

The \$26-billion programme is aimed at developing a space-based shield to shoot down attacking Soviet missiles.

The plan has been denounced by Kremlin leaders as an attempt to launch an arms race in space and deadlocked the superpower arms talks which opened in Geneva in March.

"I think it would be the greatest thing in this century if we could come up with the idea that, at last, there is a defensive measure, sys-

tem, against nuclear missiles," he said.

"These are the only weapons in the history of man that have not given birth so far to a defence against them," he added, declaring his commitment to shifting to nuclear defence from present policies of the threat of mass mutual destruction.

The president repeated that SDI research would not be used as a bargaining chip in the Geneva arms talks and the system would be negotiated only when the deployment stage approached.

A senior U.S. official said Tuesday the U.S.-Soviet summit next week could yield guidelines for negotiations on arms control if Moscow backs off some of the demand in its latest arms proposal.

"The best one can hope for... are guidelines which could push the negotiating process... towards desirable outcomes," he said.

Jaruzelski completes government shake-up

WARSAW (R) — Communist leader Wojciech Jaruzelski has completed a major shake-up of Poland's power structure following parliament's approval Tuesday night of a new government led by Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner.

Political sources said Gen. Jaruzelski, now head of state after giving the premiership to Messner, had won a wider political power base in advance of a struggle with hardline opponents at the 10th party congress next spring.

Potential opponents and their supporters have been eased firmly out of the ruling Communist Party, parliament, the government and the Council of State.

The sources said the shake-up was the most radical since Gen. Jaruzelski suppressed the Solidarity free trade union under martial law and embarked on a series of economic and social reforms to recover Communist authority.

Mr. Messner, 56, assured parliament while presenting his new government that the reforms would be followed to the letter.

He said priority would be given to intensifying the revival of the trouble-plagued economy and added: "The second part of the 1980s will decide Poland's future."

Relations between Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's ZANU

C. Americans agree to talk again on peace

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Central American states have called a new round of talks in a bid to break the deadlock over the Contadora initiative to bring peace to the region.

Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, speaking for the four-nation Contadora Group and five other Central American countries, said Tuesday night Foreign Ministers agreed to call a special three-day session of senior officials starting on Nov. 19 to resolve final difficulties.

Ocampo, talking to journalists after the unscheduled meeting here, said the Central American states had also agreed guidelines for their officials to try to over-

come two remaining obstacles to signature of a Contadora peace accord, the level of armaments in the region and military manoeuvres.

"We will just have to try and sort these two out," he said.

The new meeting was called directly after the European Community (EC) signed its first political and economic accords with the Contadora group — Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama — and the five other states of Central America.

At one point the two-day meeting here was threatened by political divisions between leftist Nicaragua and its pro-U.S. neighbours.

Amnesty cites increased torture in Zimbabwe

LONDON (AP) — Amnesty International said in a report issued Wednesday that arrests and torture of suspected government opponents in Zimbabwe have increased sharply since the general election in July.

The independent, London-based human rights group said such actions were particularly intense in Bulawayo, the chief town in Matabeleland, the power base of ZAPU opposition party leader Joshua Nkomo.

Relations between Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's ZANU

government and the ZAPU opposition have become increasingly bitter.

Amnesty International, which has made political prisoners around the world its special concern, quoted former inmates of stops camp, a detention centre forming part of Muzikazi Police Station in central Bulawayo, as saying most of those detained there were held in three big cages.

It said the cages were walled on three sides and fenced in on the fourth side and were open to the weather.

Laurel ready to take on Marcos

MANILA (R) — Philippine opposition leader Salvador Laurel returned to a hero's welcome from thousands of cheering supporters Wednesday and declared he was "ready for battle" in presidential elections next year.

He told the crowds at Manila airport he was glad President Ferdinand Marcos agreed to a snap election on Jan. 17 because a "presidential vote at the end of his term (in 1987) might be too late."

"Laurel, who had been visiting the United States and Japan, has been nominated by the eight-party coalition United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO) as a candidate against Mr. Marcos."

Another possible candidate is Corason Aquino, widow of murdered opposition leader Benigno

Aquino. She has not yet said firmly whether she would take on the job.

A committee representing almost all Philippine opposition groups meets later this week and might announce then its official candidate to challenge Mr. Marcos.

"I am ready for battle and I am now calling on all our leaders to man the opposition ramparts all over the country. Marcos might win if he cheats. But he will have to kill us all first," Mr. Laurel said.

Mr. Laurel, 57, former senator and son of an ex-president, was expected to meet privately with Mrs. Aquino and other opposition leaders this week to try to settle tactical differences and launch their campaign.

Mr. Marcos sent a bill to the National Assembly on Monday calling for an election for pre-

sident and vice-president on Jan. 17, almost 18 months before his present six-year term expires.

Although the bill is likely to be approved by the assembly, where the ruling New Society Movement (NSM) has a comfortable majority, there is a possibility that it will be challenged in the supreme court on the grounds that it is unconstitutional.

Mr. Laurel said the presidential election should be synchronised with local elections scheduled for next May to save money. But he added: "Either way we are ready to fight him in any election and we will not allow ourselves to be cheated."

Among those who met Laurel at the airport were opposition members of parliament, provincial governors and town mayors as well as Mrs. Aquino and her brother-in-law, Agapito Aquino.

COLUMNS 7&8

Grandma spent 16 years on the road

JAKARTA (R) — A 65-year-old grandmother has spent 16 years and worn out 70 pairs of shoes to achieve her ambition of walking the length and breadth of Indonesia, an Information Ministry spokesman has said. Sabariah (one name), a former teacher, said she planned to write a book about her trek across the archipelago which comprises over 13,000 islands and stretches more than 3,000 miles (almost 5,000 kilometres). Then she will leave on a Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.

Wife discovers 'husband' is pregnant

TUGUCIGALPA (R) — Rosalinda de Hernandez got a shock when doctors told her that her "husband" of nine years was actually a woman — and six months pregnant, the Honduras daily newspaper Herald reported. The true sex of Gustavo was revealed after "he" was killed in a bar room brawl last month, the paper said. It did not say who was the father of Gustavo's child. Rosalinda told the newspaper she had never suspected Gustavo was a woman although she had thought it odd that her spouse had always avoided being naked in her presence.

Handicapped baby births may drop

LONDON (R) — Test-tube baby techniques may help reduce greatly the number of handicapped children born within the next five years, a British paediatrician has told parliament. Professor Martin Bobrow of London's Guy's Hospital said the techniques would be used to fertilise an egg from a woman liable to pass on a genetic disorder or give birth to a Down's Syndrome baby because they were over 35. Cells from the egg would then be examined microscopically for defects. The egg would be implanted into the mother's womb if it was sure to grow into a healthy baby, he said. Bobrow was speaking in parliament at the launch of the rights of a new medical organisation which will campaign for the rights of scientists to carry out research on human embryos. He said 20,000 tests for Down's Syndrome were carried out each year on British women who were four months into pregnancy, but he described this as "a pretty rotten solution" as it would be better to perform tests when an embryo was a few days old. Down's syndrome is a congenital defect affecting physical or mental development.

Trial date set for Indian guru

PORTLAND, Oregon (R) — Indian Guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh was ordered to stand trial beginning Feb. 18 on charges of violating U.S. immigration laws. Rajneesh, freed on \$500,000 bail, was not in court when U.S. district court Judge Edward Leavy set the trial date for him and seven of his disciples. They are all charged with committing immigration fraud by arranging sham marriages between U.S. citizens and his foreign followers.

Hudson's alleged lover seeks \$10m

LOS ANGELES (R) — A 31-year-old librarian has filed a claim for \$10 million against the estate of Rock Hudson, alleging the late actor did not reveal he had AIDS when the pair were having homosexual relations. The claimant, Marc Christian, "is living virtually under a death sentence," his lawyer, Marvin Mitchelson, told reporters. Christian, a blond, moustachioed man, is seeking \$10 million in damages for alleged fraud and deceit. He appeared with Mitchelson, a well-known Hollywood divorce lawyer, before reporters but refused to answer questions. Earl Bender, a lawyer who represents the Hudson estate, said he was not aware of the claim and had no comment. In his claim, filed in Los Angeles superior court, Christian said he stopped having sexual relations with Hudson when it was announced last July that the actor had Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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East-West vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ AKQ8
♦ K8
♦ 1072
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EAST
♦ 92
♦ Q965
♦ J8643
♦ 32
SOUTH
♦ J1053
♦ J74
♦ AK9
♦ K64

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 NT Pass
4 ♦ Pass Pass
Opening lead: Three of ♠.

Look around for an extra chance. More often than not, to combine more than one line costs nothing. Consider this example.

North is on the borderline for a jump to three spades. Because of his concentration of strength in spades, he elected to take the conservative path and raise to only two spades. South was not sure that his partner had four-card spade support, so he made the most descriptive rebid and North knew exactly where he

wanted to play. To the first trick declarer played the seven of clubs from dummy and captured East's nine with the king. Declarer drew three rounds of trumps ending in hand, and it seemed that the contract would hinge on either a 3-3 club split or finding the ace of hearts with West. As you can see, neither of these chances were to materialize, but South found yet another arrow in his quiver.

He led a low club and inserted the table's eight, leading to East's jack. Back came a diamond. Declarer won in hand with the king and took the precaution of cashing the ace of diamonds before testing the clubs. When West showed out on the next lead, declarer rose with the ace and returned a club, shuffling his losing diamond from hand. As it happened, East had been stripped of all side suits, so when he won the fourth club he had to lead a heart up to the king. Declarer thus lost only one heart.

What if East still had a diamond to return after being thrown in with the club? Declarer would ruff and lead a heart, and the contract would still be made if West had the ace of that suit. Declarer's foresight in cashing the second diamond simply increased his possibilities of making the contract at absolutely no cost to himself.

TASS denies cutting Reagan's statements

MOONCOW (R) — The Soviet News Agency TASS has rejected U.S. charges that President Reagan's recent interview with Soviet journalists was censored before publication here.

A TASS commentary said the interview had been slightly shortened to fit into newspaper format before appearing in the government daily Izvestia, but only repetitions were cut out.

"Every unbiased reader will admit that all of Mr. Reagan's ideas and views without exception found adequate reflection in the interview published by Izvestia," it said.

Izvestia published the article over an entire page on Nov. 4, but cut out remarks by Mr. Reagan about Afghanistan, Vietnam, Korea, and Eastern Europe.

The White House expressed disappointment that the entire text of the Oct. 31 interview had not been published, but said it was positive that a "substantial amount" of Mr. Reagan's views had been made available to Soviet newspaper readers.



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KING HUSSEIN

their heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the golden jubilee of his birthday, wishing His Majesty a long and healthy life.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Eitzen

SERPENTARIUM

By Joanna Wilson

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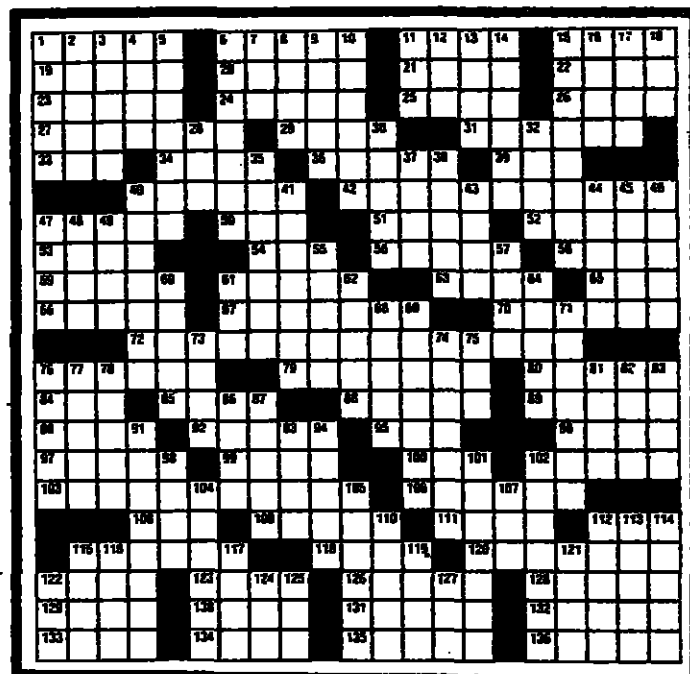
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Diagramless

17 X 17, by Mary Coo Whitman

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Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Fabulous grand opera performance of famed soloist brought the audience to its feet.
2. Good weather's cookies may be delicious even when they get stale, but we'll never know.
3. If mice is the plural of mouse, is spider the plural of spore?
4. Joe is the cruel, silent language in the Antarctic.

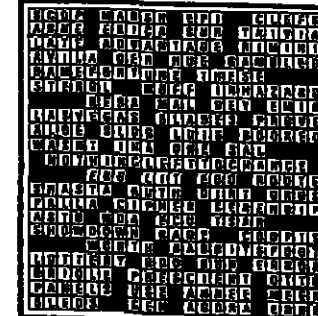
CRYPTOGRAMS

1. ZABCFDEZ ZGHIBIDE ZAFKDE ZLEDCDHE
ZADZXBQI ZEGMIDE ZCDEX ZEMZEMFMO
ZLEKPLEK ZLEIBN ZEMILFPMFO ZEGHAKD
ZBJDHFPCDE
—By Philip P. Brennan

2. KT KC CLAY CROC CRY SICKIS IN HICKIS IS
CRY INYOS BOS BOATY O NILE IN SOATTOY
—By Len Sherry

3. TED EQQHK QEMSKCJ XWJJ SKQA AEXJ WT
TETE AEHR DWCSKJ BY APK WHI WCMFECL
—By Earl Ireland

4. SNAGUEKAM OAMGET BINGZ BOE SOE BITXL
LI YE XWYE YOUR JOKERJ JTOEY
—By Lyle E. Jones



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